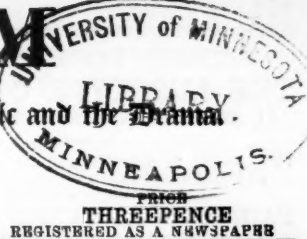


# THE ATHENÆUM

Journal of English and Foreign Literature, Science, the Fine Arts, Music and the Dramatic.

No. 3777.

SATURDAY, MARCH 17, 1900.



**BRITISH ARCHÆOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION.**—The NINTH MEETING of the SESSION will be held at 32, SACKVILLE STREET, PICCADILLY, on WEDNESDAY NEXT, March 21. Chair to be taken at 8 p.m. Antiquities will be exhibited, and the following Paper read:—“Records and Accounts by Wooden Tallies,” by EDWARD LOVETT, Esq. (Hon. GEORGE PATRICK, Esq., A.R.I.A., Hon. Rev. H. J. DUKINFIELD ASTLEY, M.A.)

**THE FOLK-LORE SOCIETY.**—The NEXT MEETING of the SOCIETY will be held at 22, ALBEMARLE STREET, PICCADILLY, on WEDNESDAY, March 21, at 8 p.m., when a Paper entitled “The Feast of Fools” will be read by Mr. E. K. CHAMBERS. F. A. MILNE, Secretary.

**MR. SIDNEY LEE** will deliver a LECTURE on “SHAKESPEARE and the ELIZABETHAN PLAYGOER” in the PRESTON HALL, at QUEEN'S COLLEGE, 43 and 45, HARTLEY STREET, W., on TUESDAY, March 20, at 5 p.m. For Tickets (price Half-a-Crown) apply to the LADY RESIDENT.

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SATURDAY, MARCH 17, 1900.

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## LITERATURE

*Notes from a Diary, 1886-1888.* By the Right Hon. Sir Mountstuart E. Grant Duff, G.C.S.I. 2 vols. (Murray.)

THE instalments of Sir Mountstuart Grant Duff's diary are so welcome in themselves that it is unnecessary to submit the various members of the series to comparison. The nearer he comes to the present day the more conversations he has presumably to suppress; still he has contrived to record some interesting talks so late as the years 1886-8, and that without betraying a single confidence, so far as we can discover. He has even contrived to find something fairly fresh to say about much-travelled countries like Egypt and Palestine; but, frankly, there might have been less of it. The tricks of speech of the Khedives Ismail and Tewfik are amusingly noted, with a more amusing complement:—

"I spoke of the strange habit which the late Khedive had, or has, of using the phrase, 'Ceci et ça,' every second minute—a habit which has, to some extent, been inherited by his son, whose pet word is, however, 'Chose.' Warren said: 'I once knew an old country gentleman who had a trick of the same kind. His phrase, however, was "Little dogs, little dogs," which he repeated incessantly, sometimes insulting thereby such of his hearers as were not prepared for this remarkable peculiarity.'"

There is also an agreeable echo of Kinglake or Laurence Oliphant in this description of Dalieh, the village on Mount Carmel, where the latter, as readers of his 'Life' will remember, had built him a house:—

"The village is inhabited exclusively by Druses (whom I here saw for the first time in any numbers), and a very large part of the population is being employed by my hosts in building terraces, laying out vineyards, and other agricultural operations. Presently I received a visit from the heads of the community, the so-called Ukkul, who all wear the white turban coiled round the ordinary red tarboosh, and are initiated into some, apparently not all, of the mysteries of their religion. In the course of the early afternoon I visited, under the guidance of Mr. Smith, the works he is carrying on, admired the great beauty of the Druse girls who were employed on them, and entered the Khalweh, or religious edifice, which I found

divided into two parts by a screen, one being reserved for the men and another for the women. In the first of these is an Arabic inscription, which was interpreted to me as follows:—"Oh! thou secret source of kindness, save us from that which we fear!"

A long succession of pages concerned with the commonplaces of Eastern travel can become cloying, however, even when instruction is lent to them by appropriate quotations from Renan or Conder.

Sir M. E. Grant Duff, we hasten to add, visited other capitals than Cairo and Jerusalem during the two years that followed his return from Madras. We find him at Rome jotting down Cardinal Czacki's neat, but not altogether original jest about Mr. Gladstone's Vatican policy:—

"Thence, I went on to Cardinal Czacki. The conversation was, as a week ago, purely political, and I make no record of it, but I may cite a happy phrase used in speaking of the attitude of Mr. Gladstone towards the Roman Church: 'Il a fait un abonnement à toutes les fautes possibles.'"

M. Thiers, surely, used an expression almost verbally identical about Napoleon III. The vicissitudes of French politics were, however, illustrated even more aptly by M. Jules Simon at the Luxembourg:—

"In the library he called my attention to the fact that the books still wore the livery of the empire, and mentioned that when he lectured at the Sorbonne he had always opposite him a portrait of Louis Philippe, in which the figure of that monarch was represented as strangely slight. He asked the reason, and found that the head of the chief of the younger branch had replaced that of the chief of the elder branch, without any further change being thought necessary!"

Back in London, Sir Mountstuart looked up his old friends, Lord Kimberley among them:—

"It was interesting to observe how impressed he was with the enormous change that has come over our Parliamentary system in the last few years, with the vast importance that now attaches to platform speaking, and to speeches made in the House, not to the House, but to constituents."

Sir George Trevelyan told him the following at the Breakfast Club:—

"He mentioned that once, when walking with a lady, he had met Ruskin; and in the hope that the latter might say something characteristic, he addressed the great man, asking if he had heard the news.

"What news?" was the reply.

"Plevna has fallen."

"Plevna? I never heard of it. I know of nothing later than the fourteenth century!"

Here is a prophecy by the late Lord Coleridge which a very recent event has completely falsified:—

"Coleridge writes, with reference to an article of Mivart's in the last *Nineteenth Century*, to which I had called his attention: 'The Roman Church is too wise not to see which way the wind is blowing, nor that it is no passing and changing breeze, but a steady trade; and as the clergy want honestly to keep up purity of life and outward devotion, they will invent some way whereby a man may be allowed to see facts as they are, if he will worship and live as they desire.'"

Sir Mountstuart's intimacy with the Russells has given him this excellent and important Bismarck anecdote:—

"I copy the following, by his permission, from a MS. by Arthur Russell, being a note of

conversation with his brother at Potsdam in 1876, about the relations between France and Germany in the preceding year: 'Odo described to me dramatically the interview between the two Chancellors, during which he was present, and supported Prince Gortschakoff, in accordance with the instructions he had received from the Foreign Office. Prince Gortschakoff informed Bismarck that the Czar did not desire to see France weakened any further. Bismarck was writhing under desperate efforts to control his temper. Gortschakoff repeated: "Allons! allons, mon cher Bismarck, tranquillisez-vous donc. Vous savez que je vous aime beaucoup. Je vous ai connu depuis votre enfance. Mais je ne vous aime pas quand vous êtes nerveux. Allons, vous allez devenir nerveux! Tranquillisez-vous donc, allons! Allons, mon cher!"' A short time after this interview Bismarck complained to Odo of the preposterous folly and ignorance of the English and all other Cabinets, who had mistaken stories got up for speculations on the Bourse for the true policy of the German Government. "Then will you," asked Odo, "censure your four Ambassadors who have misled us and the other powers?" Bismarck made no reply."

The tit-for-tat came, of course, at the Berlin Congress, when Bismarck deliberately set himself to pay off Gortschakoff in kind. While at Vienna the diarist recorded some more amiable impressions of the German Chancellor from the lips of Count Kálnoky:

"There is very little arable land on the estate, but enormous woods, in which the Prince is driven about for hours, stopping occasionally to drink a glass of beer, which is carried with him. Much of the business which he did with Kálnoky was done in these drives. Altogether his way of conducting affairs is most strange. He sits down to breakfast at the head of a large table; presently the despatches of the morning are brought in and read aloud to him; as each is completed he makes a few remarks which are jotted down and on this the answer is framed apparently without being seen again by the Prince. This goes on for two or three hours, and there is something of the same kind in the evening. He manages in this way to get through not only the foreign business of the Empire, but its internal business into the bargain, for that also centres in him."

Baron Hübnér's account of what actually occurred at the famous New Year's Day reception of 1859 is a curious commentary on written history. It comes to this. The Emperor of the French really wished to deceive the Austrian ambassador by saying something agreeable; Lord Chelsea caught a qualifying phrase about the relations of the ministers not being altogether satisfactory, hurried off, and put it about Paris that Hübnér had been badly received.

With Sir Robert Morier's admirable epigram on Russia we must leave high diplomacy:—

"Sir Robert Morier, now Ambassador at St. Petersburg, came down to dine, and I sat with him talking about Russian affairs till two this morning, but make no note of what he said further than to record a happy phrase—"Russia is a great bicephalic creature, having one head European and the other Asiatic; but with the persistent habit of turning its European face to the East and its Asiatic face to the West."

Sir M. E. Grant Duff is seldom guilty of setting down entries of little interest to any one besides himself; but this comes dangerously near the fatal line:—

"Robert Elsmere," alluded to in these Notes for October last, reached me as we started for our recent journey. I began it by

the waters of Megiddo, and have just finished it. The sixteen pages which Mrs. Ward read to me at York House were a very fair sample of the best parts of this most remarkable book."

And he need not have revived in conversation in 1888 the bitter taunts used by Alexander Russel in local party warfare fully thirty years before. They were bitter without being witty. He might also have spared his readers that old, old joke of the Master of Trinity on horticulture and husbandry; we refrain from particularizing further. We are consoled, later on, by a fine-flavoured bit of Thomson, and a well-seasoned Whatelyism:—

"Pater told us last night that the late Master of Trinity once heard Wordsworth preach ere yet he was Bishop of Lincoln, and when he was only a Cathedral dignitary. He devoted much time to explaining to his congregation, that Canon in Greek meant originally a straight pole or rod. 'Surely,' said Thomson, 'it was unnecessary to prove at such length that a Canon meant a stick.' Mr. Bishop cited a singularly good pun attributed to Archbishop Whately. Some tiresome person asked him the distinction between *Services*—the fruit of the *Pyrus Sorbus*—and *Medlars*? 'There is all the difference,' he replied, 'between *Officium* and *Officiosus*.'"

The second volume, indeed, reveals divines as such superior jesters to their lay brethren that we have no hesitation in borrowing two specimens: (1) a Wilberforce:—

"We talked, too, of the late Bishop Wilberforce. Some one, it appears, said to that prelate: 'I met Lake of Balliol the other day, and was surprised to find that he was not higher in the Church than he is.' 'Ah!' was the answer, 'you thought the Lake had expanded into a Sea.'"

(2) a Stubbs:—

"I did not know that Dr. Stubbs, the new Bishop of Chester, was as witty as he is learned, but Bowen declares that when some foolish person said to him, 'It comes, then, to this, the only distinction that I can see between a man and an ape is that the man can speak and the ape can't,' he was ready with the rejoinder, 'Don't you think, perhaps, that there is also this distinction, that the man knows when to hold his tongue and the ape doesn't?'"

The literary judgments selected from the diary are sound rather than brilliant:—

"I went to the English cemetery to see the grave of Buckle, and to lay a rose upon it for the sake of his kind friend, Lady Reay, at whose house I met him, now more than a quarter of a century ago. That was the time when, suddenly emerging from his seclusion, he burst upon the London world. Few people knew him by sight, and I remember asking Owen what he looked like. I was startled when the great zoologist replied, 'Like a young Gibbon,' for I thought, not unnaturally, considering the lips from which the remark fell, that the speaker was alluding to the Quadumanous animal, but he explained that he meant the historian! Poor Buckle! I never cared very much for his writings, and thought him over-rated; but he might have accomplished much more considerable things had he not died at forty."

One of the last passages concerns Laurence Oliphant:—

"Thus passed away a very agreeable and very interesting man, who might, if his mind had been cast all in one piece, have produced a notable effect upon his generation. It was not so, however. You constantly stepped, so to speak, when with him, off perfectly solid ground into mere chaos. One moment he would be speaking like a statesman, and the next like a half-educated enthusiast, giving his time and his

thoughts to a succession of crazes. *In pace requiescat!* No one who saw much of him could avoid feeling his charm, however frequently he might smile at his strange fancies."

Here we must take leave of Sir M. E. Grant Duff, but not without the hope that he will, as his preface seems to promise, continue publishing fresh batches of his notes. On the last day of 1900 he will have steadily diarized for half a century, but that is no reason why he should stop with the Athenæum and the Breakfast Club for his hunting grounds. Let him sedulously avoid, however, the temptations of a trip to Khartoum. More Egyptian antiquities will cause his readers to desert him for some more frivolous chronicler.

#### *A White Woman in Central Africa.* By Helen Caddick. (Fisher Unwin.)

THERE is undeniable fascination in the pages of this serenely complacent record of a pleasure trip, which is not lessened because the word Africa on a title-page, even in less troublous times than these, very rarely suggests thoughts of simple recreation, innocent of all design either upon the lives of animals or upon the opinions of men.

Miss Caddick had reached Beira in June, 1898, after a tour in South Africa, and was intending to take ship thence to Europe, when she inclined her ear to the suggestion that before going home she should visit the great lakes of Central Africa. It is her independent manner of accomplishing this expedition that imparts a special charm and novelty to her narrative, which has, moreover, the high merit of being presented in good and easy English without any superfluous passages. When she had made up her mind to visit Nyasaland she resolved to go alone, despite the universal depreciation of a decision which would compel her to rely entirely, so far as conveyance and shelter were concerned during the overland portions of her journey, upon the good faith of native bearers engaged to carry her litter between one station and another. Her confidence in herself and the people in whom she trusted was fully justified, and she mentions as one reason for wishing her little book to be read the desire to make known "how kind and attentive the natives who are spoken of in England as savages can be to a lady travelling absolutely alone with them."

Miss Caddick's story opens with her start from Chinde, at the mouth of the Zambezi, in a small steamer belonging to the Universities' Mission, nicknamed "The Pious Paddler," to Katunga, on the Shiré river, where the stream ceases to be navigable. Thence she continued her journey to Lake Nyasa, partly on foot, but chiefly by means of a hammock made of sailcloth, locally called a "machila," slung on a pole borne on men's shoulders. Her first party consisted of fourteen "boys," none of whom spoke English, while she knew no native dialect; but the inability to communicate wishes or ideas by speech does not seem to have caused serious inconvenience at any time, though she was glad to find a slenderly qualified interpreter, whose limited English vocabulary, derived from a mission school, was curiously Biblical, to accompany the larger staff, numbering

twenty-five, employed for the longest tramp of eleven days between Karonga, on Lake Nyasa, and Katuta, at the southern end of Lake Tanganyika, which required such encumbrance as a tent, camp-bed, and cooking apparatus. Miss Caddick is a traveller of varied experience, who has the good humour and wisdom to take things on the road as they come and be thankful. When a stroll to the camp kitchen with a view to collaboration with her cook revealed a rough-and-ready method of ensuring the tenderness of a fowl by a slapping process which threatened discomfiture to her appetite for dinner, she discreetly withdrew, and decided to keep her foot from the neighbourhood of secrets best concealed. Her attendants left nothing to be desired in the way of prompt services, pitching the tent and making all arrangements for the hours of rest with amazing swiftness and absence of confusion, and were most ready at understanding her sympathy with their perpetual mirthfulness among themselves, and at forwarding her desire to acquire specimens of natural productions and native workmanship.

Not only their love of fun but their love of music contributed to the feeling of good-fellowship between Miss Caddick and her bearers, she being professedly not a severe critic. In a large village not far from Karonga she found several musical instruments entirely of native make, but gives the preference to the "sansis," or hand piano, on which, she declares, really sweet tunes are played:—

"These pianos are made of an oblong piece of wood, and the one I have is about eight inches long and six wide. A narrow bar of iron is fastened across the top of the wood to hold in place the strips of iron, which are of different lengths, and form the keys. Across the lower end of the wood is a piece of thin iron or tin, to which are fastened pieces of shell which make a jingling and buzzing sound when the keys are being played. The 'sansis' is held in both hands, the fingers being underneath, and the thumbs being used to press the tips of the iron notes, which vary in number from sixteen to thirty, or, as I have been told, even more."

It would certainly be interesting to compare this instrument, on which the author says she often plays when alone, with the most primitive instruments made on the keyboard principle extant in museums.

At Kota-Kota, on Lake Nyasa, Miss Caddick had an interview with the widow of Jumbé, who used to be the great chief of that part. This lady is delighted to receive a visitor, and is an intelligent no less than an august personage. She is described as

"a fine-looking woman, with brilliant eyes and beautifully white teeth. I asked the collector, who kindly went with me to visit her, to tell her how much I admired them. She was greatly pleased at the expression of my admiration, and replied that, as regards the teeth, the English, even at her age, would have quite as beautiful ones if they would not eat their food so hot. She showed me all her silver and ivory ornaments, some of which were very handsome. She wore a good many of them on her neck, wrists, and ankles. She had several women in attendance, and they, too, wore many ornaments and had their ears all studded round with ivory."

An adventure of the return overland journey is both interesting and amusing:—

"The day I left Ikawa it was intensely hot, and towards afternoon, when my boys were getting tired, we passed six or eight natives



walking along without any loads. They began to chaff my boys, and jeer and laugh at them. Suddenly, two of them made a rush at the machila pole, pushed my boys away, and ran off with me as fast as they could up and down steep 'dongas,' so steep that I should have had to walk down them with the greatest care. The rest of them came alongside, shouted and sang all the time, and, without stopping, a fresh pair took the machila pole, changing as they ran. They kept up this pace for more than an hour, till we came to a stream where there was shelter from the sun. Then they popped me down, and truly thankful I was, for, what with the shaking and the laughing which their conduct had provoked, I was nearly as tired as they were. It was the funniest sight to see my boys running their hardest to keep up, and all streaming with perspiration, but thoroughly enjoying the fun."

The author delighted in watching the natives, and her purely feminine observation has embellished her narrative with many characteristic details not the less welcome because likely to escape travellers who have either sport or serious business to occupy their attention. On Lake Nyasa she had some native women as fellow-voyagers, some of whom had small babies in their arms. Miss Caddick watched the morning toilet performed by the mothers on deck, and found the washing a perfunctory process, but adds: "Then followed massage. I don't mean smacking, but really good gentle massage, which must have been splendid for the children." All readers will sympathize with Miss Caddick's disappointment when on reaching Tanganyika she found the steamer by which she had hoped to sail from end to end of the lake unfit for service. She was only able to see the southern extremity through an effort made by the captain on her behalf, and was not consoled by his assurance that besides herself "there were only four ladies living who had been on Tanganyika." May she have health and spirits to enjoy another trip carried out in a similarly unconventional manner, and edify stay-at-home travellers by more pleasant recollections!

*Exeter Episcopal Registers, 1327-69. Vol. III.*  
By F. C. Hingeston-Randolph. (Bell & Sons.)

In his preface to this further instalment of the great work on which he has been so long engaged, Prebendary Hingeston-Randolph reminds us that if he is spared to complete the register of Bishop Brantingham (1370-94), his series of volumes will be then complete for nearly two centuries. To those who do not realize the importance of episcopal registers the light thrown by his labours on the Church in mediæval England will be somewhat of a revelation. The great part played by the Church in the country at that time is familiar enough to historical students, but it is only when the contents of these registers are made available for consultation by the self-sacrificing labours of those scholars who, like the author, devote themselves to the task, that we realize at length the facts as to the condition of the Church at the time, and that the lives of its prelates and clergy and of the inmates of the religious houses become relatively clear to our eyes.

The volume before us is the third of those devoted by the author to the

registers of that really great bishop, John de Grandisson. As these volumes have appeared, of necessity, at considerable intervals, while the preface and index have been reserved for the last of the three, it has been difficult to deal with the varied contents of those which have gone before. But the author has now gathered up in a learned and informing preface of over seventy pages all that there is to be known about the episcopal career, the labours, the troubles, and the triumphs of a bishop who lived in stormy times and ruled a trying diocese, with the hand, it is true, of a stern master, but with a single-minded resolve to do his duty as he knew it.

Mr. Baigent, to whom the author acknowledges his obligations, contributes an interesting pedigree of the baronial family of Grandson, to which the bishop belonged, and which derived its name from the castle of Grandson on the lake of Neuchâtel. The late General Meredith Read was interested, we may observe, in the family, and describes their castle in his posthumous work on Vaud, Berne, and Savoy. A comparison of Mr. Baigent's pedigree with the best work of reference on the subject, the 'Complete Peerage,' will show what very large additions he has been enabled to make to the history of this interesting family. The bishop himself affords an illustration at once of the good and the bad influence of the Papal Curia on the English Church. He was essentially the Pope's man. A favourite of John XXII., he was forced by him on the see of Exeter, to the signal advantage, as it proved, of the diocese, and he turned to his patron, with unflinching confidence, for assistance against those with whom he was at variance, including the Archbishop of Canterbury himself. The dark side of the picture is seen in "the cruel exaction" to which he had to submit at the hands of the Curia, determined, by fair means or foul, to wring the uttermost farthing it could from the revenues of an English diocese. Against the greed of the Sacred College even the Pope was powerless to protect him. The author shows us how this millstone of debt placed by Rome about his neck thwarted and hampered him in his work, and how he had to press the clergy and Church dignitaries of his diocese for pecuniary help in consequence. In spite of this, he struggled on with the great work of his cathedral, and eventually undertook the founding of the collegiate church of Ottery St. Mary, "justly regarded as one of the glories of Devon, and a marvellous monument of the great bishop's architectural knowledge, munificence, and devotion."

That a strong man was needed in the diocese is evident enough from the documents printed, which are sometimes of a startling character. Students of the great series of calendars now being issued by the Public Record Office must be well aware that lawless violence prevailed to a strange extent in the fourteenth century, but they might hardly be prepared for its prevalence in Church matters. Here, for instance, we have a Devonshire rector taking advantage of his bishop's death to sally out with his hounds, slaughter two hundred of the bishop's deer, and plunder an episcopal manor-house. A parish church is seized and held by armed men on behalf

of an abbot, and fortified against the bishop's representative, while in another instance an unfortunate vicar was driven out by an armed mob employed by another cleric who wished to take his place. At one time the cathedral itself was invaded by armed ruffians, and at another Kilkhampton Church was turned into a fortress, and the bishop's emissaries forced to flee for their lives. In Yealmpton Church the commissaries were assailed, even at the high altar, by men with drawn swords; while at Exeter the bishop and the Archbishop of Canterbury seem to have employed armed followers against one another. Indeed, the worst of it is that quarrels about ecclesiastical matters were usually the cause of these riotous scenes. Discipline had become woefully slack; the parish priests are accused by the bishop of careless performance of their duties, while the gross irreverence shown in the cathedral itself by the clerical members of its staff aroused his horror and indignation. The state of the religious houses, again, was anything but satisfactory, and although we must remember that the bishops' registers show us, of necessity, the seamy side of Church affairs at the time, the strong episcopal action described in these volumes proves that there was more than laxity within cloister walls. All this has to be remembered if one wishes to understand Wycliffe and the Lollard movement. Space will not permit the discussion of many matters on which these 'Registers' incidentally throw light, but one may mention the bishop's insistence on the isolated character of his diocese, which, after his experience of the Papal Court, he seems to have regarded as at the end of the world. He had, indeed, to employ an interpreter in some parts of Cornwall, where the natives only spoke Cornish, a tongue, by the way, which seems to have been then considered the same as Breton.

The author's fairness is seen in the space he devotes to the very remarkable case of a "heretic" deacon, Ralph de Tremur, for the bishop's language on the subject of his denial of transubstantiation illustrates the tremendous breach in doctrine between the mediæval and the modern Church in this country. Some fifty pages of this volume are devoted to the transcript of a fragment of the cartulary of Buckfast Abbey, which appears to have been hitherto unknown. It is of considerable local interest, and the learned Prebendary deserves gratitude for placing its contents on record.

*The New Pacific.* By Hubert Howe Bancroft. (Kegan Paul & Co.)

THE forty and odd volumes in which Mr. Bancroft has dealt with the lands and peoples of the Pacific seaboard of the United States should at all events guarantee an attentive reception of the present work on both sides of the Atlantic. Still, it is probably fair to assume that the 738 closely printed pages in which he descants on the future destinies of the Pacific under the auspices of his countrymen are written mainly for home consumption. No student of politics will underestimate the importance of the new departure in American

policy and sentiment which has developed from, if it did not lead up to, the war with Spain. A patriotic American writer may therefore be tolerated if he enlarges through many pages not only on the enlightened altruistic conceptions evolved, as he asserts, from the war in his own country, but also on the tremendous significance of the event to the world at large as "a new departure in whatever makes for good to the human race." There are wars and wars, however—the Franco-German war, for instance, "was wholly base on both sides.....without one redeeming feature," whereas all American wars, except the Mexican, have been just, and all have been successful. As for the recent war, it was in fact a new departure in warfare, and the writer stands astonished at the moderation of his country's demand, for America demanded *nothing*. This perhaps requires explanation, but it is simple—Cuba is "free"; the Philippines were "thrust upon us"; no pecuniary indemnity was asked; on the greedy European standard it should have been a thousand million dollars. As for the proposal to demand the art treasures of the Escorial, it was, the author says, perhaps hardly serious.

The immense importance of the attack on the Manila fleet and forts is skilfully and graphically shown. Is it a sublime unconsciousness of the humorous which leads the author, side by side with the statement that there was no loss of American life, and that a thousand pounds would repair the damage done to their ships, to suggest the parallel of Dewey and Manila with Nelson and Trafalgar? Later on, indeed, he explains that if his countrymen had known how contemptibly weak the enemy was they would not have talked so much of their victories, "as there was nothing to be proud of in giving an old woman a drubbing in her dotage." He also admits some luck, quoting as an instance of it "England's freak of friendship." This, if not a somewhat ungracious expression, is inconsistent with what he says elsewhere of the gradual growth of the sentiment in England, and his conclusion that "the reconciliation of the Anglo-Saxon race must for ever remain the supreme event of the century." But we reflect that we are still one of the "brazen and bedizened monarchies of Europe," under which intellect and morale are alike at a disadvantage. Every reference to Spain and the Spaniards affects the writer's equanimity even more than "monarchal institutions," and leads to a good deal of repetition. Thus the motives which led to the war, the justification for it, the fitness of America to deal with the new problems involved, are discussed at what seems to be inordinate length. The argument against Aguinaldo sounds rather jesuitical. Either he is a native or a Spaniard. But all native political rights were extinguished by the Spanish conquest three centuries ago; while if he is a Spaniard, any such rights have lapsed to the United States. The deduction drawn is, "Let the leaders of insurrection be caught and strangled."

The chapters which relate to the present geographical conditions and recent expansion of trade towards the Pacific contain some interesting and suggestive statistics. While some of the author's prelections on such

wide texts as "Ocean," "China," "Trade," involuntarily recall memories of the debating club or essay society of youth, it may be admitted that if the material prosperity of the great republic continues to advance, and the Pacific coast of North America is dotted, as the author expects, with Chicagos and New Yorks, his most glowing anticipations of the spread of his country's commerce and civilization over the vast regions washed by the waters of the Pacific may easily be fulfilled. Meanwhile, it is interesting to gather from a representative American writer the bent which the daydreams of a practical people are beginning to take.

In ranging over such a wide expanse of subject-matter some slips may naturally be expected. Russia, the writer says, might perhaps allow Japan to annex North Borneo; yet he must be aware that all the states comprised in North Borneo, to wit, Sarawak, Brunei, and the Chartered Company, are British protectorates, and England might consequently have something to say about it. Is the story of the slaughter in cold blood by the Spaniards at Manila, as a measure of precaution, of forty thousand Chinese, to be accepted as historical? No British man-of-war was lost in the Samoan hurricane which wrecked the American and German ships. It is incorrect to speak of the population of the Pacific islands as the "lowest savages," and the charge of universal cannibalism can hardly be proved against them. Sir Joseph Banks, who is mentioned incidentally in relation to Cook's voyages, is not adequately described as "a rich Englishman."

The author has a habit of writing proper names without initial capitals, and of omitting necessary commas, which here and there produces an eccentric appearance.

#### NEW NOVELS.

*The Wooing of Monica.* By L. T. Meade. (White & Co.)

THE successful blend of heartless villainy and Sunday-school sentiment in L. T. Meade's latest story will do nothing to detract from her popularity. Monica Douglas is a great heiress, and, of course, represents all that well-brought-up girlhood should. Equally of course, she is in danger of succumbing to the fascinations of the clever scoundrel who is her guardian, and who possesses "eyes soft and yet brilliant," and all the other conventional attributes calculated to impress the girl whose wealth and whose person he intends to appropriate. Fortunately this clever gentleman overreaches himself. Monica's faith in her honest, but not brilliant *fiancé* being challenged, her love reasserts itself in a very proper manner, and two innocent people are preserved from the evil machinations of Mordant, to enjoy the uninterrupted pleasure of one another's society, and the not too distant music of wedding bells. This happy climax is arrived at in a very few pages, largely owing to the predominance of the Sunday-school element in the person of Mordant's tool and accomplice Christopher Findlay, a really pathetic figure, and in his domestic circle the most interesting in the book. After so much ingenious scheming the conclusion of the

story may appear a little tame, since even the villain does not get his full deserts; but that lovers should be left happy is all that from this class of literature it is usual to demand.

*Logan's Loyalty.* By Sarah Tytler. (Long.)

LOGAN is the daughter of a Highland laird by his marriage with a farmer's daughter of Lowland origin. Sir Hector Macdonell of Fearn has a fair share of the pride of his race, although he has idealized a "barn-door beauty." Nor is he more long-suffering than Celts in general, though a man of peace and something of a cultured scholar. So when his efforts to educate his illiterate and rather lymphatic spouse have failed, he degenerates into a captious critic of her incompetence. When Lady Macdonell dies of heart failure after a stormy interview with her husband, Logan the younger feels herself her mother's champion and, at twelve years old, her father's censor. As she is his replica in physique and temperament, she is admirably qualified to cherish her resentment, apart from the natural hasty partisanship of youth. In her exuberance of feeling she terribly misjudges her father, and the weakest point in an otherwise well-imagined plot is the exaggerated fear of compulsion in the matter of marriage which induces her elopement with her cousin the farmer. Given that improbability, the rest of Logan's conduct is consistent both with her innate pride and the rectitude which makes her conscientiously try to adapt herself to her new position. This is complicated when Sir Hector dies, and Logan's son is his heir. All these events and personages are set before us with some skill and humour; and the local colouring is in the author's latest and best manner. The expedient of making Sandy volunteer for the Waterloo campaign, and of bringing together the *dramatis personæ* near the field, is a little trite; and surely Burns never asked that his pint of wine should be "put" in a silver tassie.

Go fetch to me a pint of wine,  
And fill it in a silver tassie,

is the current version.

*Maitland of Cortezia.* By Francis L. Puxley. (Grant Richards.)

WHETHER or not any political parable underlies Mr. Puxley's sketch of an English administrator confronted with semi-barbarous Nationalists in a tropical country, we may congratulate him upon a worthy study in his central figure, and a sufficient variety among the ignoble types of frothy demagogues who conceive it their interest to oppose him. The only honest Cortezian on the Pacific seaboard, which is the scene of the attempted revolution, is Mercedes Stallard, whose zeal for her mother country outweighs her allegiance to her fatherland. Her impetuous nature and her mixed blood make her a useful tool for the conspirators, but her honesty is revolted by their assassinating and other scoundrelly proclivities. Her love for Maitland in the end triumphs over other prepossessions, but not until the moral hopelessness of her cause is abundantly evident. Sir Howard Denbigh, Maitland's predecessor, is not a bad sketch of a tem-



porizing and flexible official, and there are other good minor characters.

*Was It Right to Forgive?* By Amelia E. Barr. (Fisher Unwin.)

ECHO answers "in the affirmative." The author has put most forcibly the arguments why Adriana Filmer (*née* Van Hoosen) should forgive till seventy times seven her frivolous and unfaithful husband, and thereby make a man of him at last. It is equally clear that Antony van Hoosen, having a vain wife (*née* Filmer) who drags his name in the dirt, should also forgive on her realization of her need of such forgiveness. But there is no assumption that the cases are exactly parallel, and the writer deals fairly with the physiological grounds of the disparity. It must not be thought that the moral in this instance swallows up the tale. Life in New York and in the "village" of Woodsome is pleasantly realistic. The elder Van Hoosen is a Dutchman without guile, but with plenty of shrewdness. His distant kinsman Filmer is a trifle more sardonic. He is a bookworm, with a pushing wife who is forcing her way into that "smart" set which begins to usurp the place of aristocracy on both sides of the sea. The figures of Adriana and her brother Antony are the noble outcome of worldly experience based upon the veracities of a religious home. Whether Calvinism be generally conducive to such an outcome we need not question; but Peter van Hoosen is a good man on account of, or in spite of, his creed, an element not to be neglected in old-world America.

*Scruples.* By Thomas Cobb. (Grant Richards.)

THE love affairs of three men and three women are here compressed into a short narrative with a large proportion of dialogue. There are no deductions drawn for the reader; he is left to gather the meaning from the conversations, and to understand the peculiar scruples which weigh in the minds of different people when not quite sure of the objects of their affections. The little book is a drawing-room comedy depicting very ladylike manners of to-day, and laughing at every one concerned. It is a clever piece of light literature, by a hand which has already shown capacity.

*Village Life in China.* By A. H. Smith, D.D. (Oliphant, Anderson & Ferrier.)

THOSE who remember Dr. Smith's earlier work, 'Chinese Characteristics,' will open the present volume with expectant interest, and they will not be disappointed. From the first page to the last it is full of suggestive matter, and gives a more faithful representation of village life in China than any that has ever yet been attempted. For many years Dr. Smith has lived among the people in the country districts of Shantung; he has watched the phases of their daily life, and has been in the habit of going in and out of their cottages almost as one of themselves. When to these opportunities is added a keen perspective faculty, it will be seen that he possesses advantages which few can hope to rival.

China is such a huge country, and the climate and soil vary so largely, that it is

impossible in a volume to do more than describe the features of a single province or district. The people are homogeneous, but their habits, for example, in the north and south differ considerably, and in studying such a book as the present it is necessary to bear this qualification in mind. The main impression left on the reader by a perusal of 'Village Life in China' is that a more sordid existence than that of a Chinese peasant is difficult to imagine. As a general rule, the over-population which is everywhere apparent has a crushing and debasing effect upon the people:—

"There are too many villages to the square mile, too many families to the village, too many 'mouths' to the family. Wherever one goes it is the same weary tale with interminable reiteration. Poverty, poverty, poverty, always and evermore poverty. The empire is broad, its unoccupied regions are extensive, and its undeveloped resources undoubtedly vast. But in what way can these resources be so developed as to benefit the great mass of the Chinese people? By none with which we are acquainted. ....The seething mass of over-population must be drawn off to the regions where it is needed, and then only will there be room for the relief of those who remain."

It is difficult to find a brighter side to this dismal prospect. With us there is the family life, which even in the smallest cottage often brings light and happiness. But amongst the Chinese this is almost unknown. According to Confucius the union of husband and wife is the first of human relationships. But in daily life little or no interchange of thought passes between the master and mistress of a household. It is a shame for a man to be seen with his wife in public, and for a husband to converse with his wife at home is to draw upon himself the ridicule of his friends and neighbours:—

"In those unique instances in which the young couple have the good sense to get acquainted with each other, and present the appearance of actually exchanging ideas, this circumstance is the joke of the whole family circle, and an insoluble enigma to all its members. We have heard of cases in which members of a family where there was a newly married couple, kept a string in which was tied a knot every time they were heard to speak to one another. This cord would be subsequently exhibited to them in ridicule of their intimacy."

The sociability of family meals is a thing comparatively unrecognized in China, and in the warm weather it is a common sight to see the heads of families sitting at their cottage doors, eating their bowls of rice in dreary solitude. Every trade and calling is hopelessly overmanned, and the struggle for existence is proportionately keen. In the part of the country of which Dr. Smith writes schoolmasters are more numerous than those who can read, and the wretched pittance they are able to gain by explaining the dicta of Confucius and Mencius is barely sufficient to keep body and soul together. The village shopkeeper who is so graphically described by the author furnishes an example of the difficulties which lie in the way of making a livelihood amongst such poverty-stricken people. Feasts and theatrical performances are the only alleviating pleasures known to the long-suffering villager, and it is indicative of the relief which these two sources of amusement afford them that more often than not local feuds are adjusted and

clan quarrels made up by one side or the other giving a feast or providing a theatrical entertainment for the disputants in general.

Dr. Smith's book is well illustrated, and it is needless to say that it is interestingly written.

#### AMERICAN HISTORY.

*Homes and Haunts of the Pilgrim Fathers* (Religious Tract Society), by Alexander Mac-kennal, D.D., is adorned with a coloured frontispiece and ninety-three illustrations from drawings and photographs by Charles Whymper. The editor and publishers of this volume command respect. The illustrations are most attractive and useful, while the letterpress, on the whole, is worthy of the subject. However, Dr. Mackennal has made some rash statements which should not have proceeded from the pen of one whose writings are accepted with implicit confidence by the members of a large religious circle. Myles Standish had a grievance before he quitted England, being of opinion or under the delusion that he was improperly ousted from estates which he thought that he ought to have inherited. In his will he bequeathed estates to his son and heir apparent which, he said, had been "sur-reptitiously detained" from him. Dr. Mackennal quotes these words, and he adds that such claims are often supposititious, "but there is reason for believing that Myles's wrong was not imaginary." Why not give the reason? Without this the statement made by Dr. Mackennal is utterly absurd. It is that a whole page in the Chorley parish register has been defaced in order to oust Standish from his property. Was Standish's name the only one entered on it? If so, then the inference might fairly be drawn that he was the person concerned when his name was erased. It is added that the "defaced page is not even now open for inspection." We doubt this. We doubt still more the further statement that the rector of the parish church arrested a Mr. Bromley in 1847 who was then examining the volume, and fined him 75s. with the alternative of imprisonment, and he did so "under some ancient law." Why is not this law quoted in the usual way? Till it is so quoted we shall question its existence. Mr. Bromley is said to have been employed by Standish's heirs. These heirs might possibly have had a claim upon property which did belong to him, but no claim which would be accepted as valid could be put forth for property which he said in his will ought to have belonged to him. The claim is purely visionary. Dr. Mackennal should not be ignorant of this, nor write, "The belief that Myles Standish was victimised is deeply embodied in American sentiment," without adding that the belief is baseless. It is mischievous to perpetuate a delusion.

*The History of South Carolina under the Royal Government, 1719-1776* (New York, the Macmillan Company; London, Macmillan & Co.), is a continuation of Mr. Edward McCready's history of the same state under the Proprietary Government. Mr. McCready is a member of the Charleston bar and President of the Historical Society of South Carolina, and his professional training and experience add value to his conclusions. Some months ago we praised his industry as the author of 'South Carolina under the Proprietary Government,' and his present work deserves commendation, though there is more detail than is necessary or attractive. A sense of proportion is as indispensable to a historian as to a painter, and where it is lacking a history or painting fails to impress the reader or the spectator. Yet there is much here worth remembering. For instance, it is commonly supposed that voting by ballot at elections is comparatively modern, and it has been forgotten that it was in use in certain boroughs at Parliamentary elections before the Reform Act of 1832. In South Carolina, however, it was

the rule before 1720. In 1748 Governor Glen wrote to the Secretary of State objecting to vote by ballot, saying that the method of voting which prevailed in Great Britain ought to be adopted, adding in support of his view, as Mr. McCready puts it, "that any person who attends the balloting box may, with very little sleight of hand, give the election to whom he pleases." Complaints about "stuffing the ballot boxes" have been made since then; however, this is not a condemnation of voting by ballot, but of the manner in which it is conducted. It is curious, but not uninteresting, to read how the ideas regarding exports and imports, which direct the policy of the United States now, were rampant when South Carolina was a province. In 1749 Governor Glen expressed his regret that the "golden rule of commerce was not followed," which he defined to be that imports and exports should balance each other. He did not know that an excess of imports over exports may betoken the power of colonists to pay for what they have bought. Several years earlier the colonists had a painful experience of the issue of paper money, being then under the delusion, which has not yet died out, that a promise to pay, when made by a province or a state, was equivalent to the power to cash the notes on which it was written or printed. Mr. McCready refers to Lord Mansfield's decision in the Somerset case, and notes that it was made by the King's Bench only, and was not confirmed by the House of Lords. The truth is that, the decision being entirely in accord with the law of England as well as with public opinion, no appeal was necessary, nor would any have had the slightest chance of success. The author is mistaken in writing on p. 469 that Lord North was the head of the Government, as he did not attain that position till 1770. On the whole, he has told his story with sobriety and effect, and the few mistakes which occur but slightly lessen its historical value.

John Winthrop the Younger, though not so notable as his father, who was the virtual founder of Massachusetts, deserved to be commemorated in the sketch of his life which Thomas Franklin Waters has written for the Ipswich (U.S.) Historical Society. His father sailed for New England on March 30th, 1630, at the head of a party of Puritans, most of whom, like himself, were Englishmen of gentle birth and university training. His eldest son followed in 1631. This son had received a liberal education, the first part at the Grammar School of Bury St. Edmunds, the second at Trinity College, Dublin, under the care of his uncle, Emmanuel Downing. He was next entered at the Inner Temple, and called to the bar there in 1624. Being fonder of adventure than the practice of the law, he obtained the office of secretary to Capt. Best of the *Due Repulse*, forming one of the fleet which, under the Duke of Buckingham, endeavoured, but in vain, to relieve the Protestants at La Rochelle. Two years after arriving at Boston, Winthrop went with twelve others and founded a plantation at Agawam, now called Ipswich. He became governor of Connecticut. He visited England in order to support the cause of New England generally. He had a taste for science, and he owed to Robert Boyle the honour of being made a Fellow of the Royal Society. He was esteemed by all who knew him, and the harshest criticism passed on him was that he was too gentle and amiable. In his generation he did excellent work. Although a Puritan he was generally beloved, and this record of his life is worthy of him.

#### LAW BOOKS.

*Ruling Cases.* Edited by Robert Campbell, assisted by other Members of the Bar. With American Notes by Irving Browne. Vols. XVII. and XVIII. (Stevens & Son.)—These two volumes carry the work forward as far as the

first section of what will presumably be the large title 'Negligence.' They include, besides some minor titles, 'Master and Servant,' illustrated by fourteen cases; 'Mines and Minerals,' by thirty-seven; and 'Mortgage,' by no fewer than sixty-four. These last have been selected and (for the main part) annotated by the late L. G. Gordon Robbins, Reader in Equity to the Council of Legal Education and author of 'Robbins on Mortgages.' There is no change in the general character of the work; the style and get-up continue as excellent as heretofore, and the various improvements which have from time to time been introduced are, of course, continued. With deep regret for the loss of a valuable fellow-labourer, the editor has to announce, firstly, the retirement from the work on account of ill health, and afterwards the death, of the American editor, Mr. Irving Browne. His work in supplying the American notes will be carried on by the Hon. Lionel A. Jones, author of some standard treatises on mortgages, liens, real property, &c. In these as in previous volumes the ruling cases are for the most part printed in full, but some notable exceptions remind us that we are not to rely on the reports here given as necessarily complete. The original preface to the whole work plainly stated that the cases would be subject to abridgment "where the original report is unnecessarily diffuse"; but even this warning would scarcely, we think, have prepared us for an abridgment like that of Cracknell v. Janson, one of the cases on 'Mortgage.' The original case, which decided four or five distinct points, is shortened by the omission from head-note, facts, arguments, and judgments, of all that does not bear on the particular point for which the case is here cited. Such a selection of the relevant passages, made by the hand of an expert like Mr. Robbins, may not only save the reader's time, but be helpful to any person having occasion to make the like selection; but the liability to meet with such abbreviations must, we fear, tend to introduce a certain feeling of insecurity in using these reports, a feeling which will not be lessened by the fact that the points at which omissions have been made are sometimes indicated and sometimes are not. On the tables of contents there is one small point to which we would call attention, which is that there is no uniform practice as regards reference to ruling cases which are pertinent to the title in hand, but are not printed under it because they have appeared elsewhere in the series. Sometimes, as with the tenth and eleventh of the cases on the title 'Master and Servant,' the names are printed in the table of contents as if the cases themselves were to be found in the volume which includes that title; and then, on the practitioner turning up the page referred to with the expectation of seeing them there, he is informed that they will be found at certain specified pages of another volume. Elsewhere, as under the title 'Mortgage,' a different course is taken: the table of contents includes the names of those cases only which appear in the volume, and the others are referred to by a note in the table at the appropriate place, e.g., "On this subject see also Nos. 5-9 of 'Equitable Title,' 10 R.C. 478-570." The latter mode of reference is, we conceive, obviously preferable to the former, though better still is that which mentions any case so referred to by its name as well as by its number, volume, and page. It is good that under the one heading, say, of 'Master and Servant,' we should see enumerated all the ruling cases which are pertinent to it, and it is not needful for this purpose that we should be led to suppose that they are all in the volume immediately before us.

The Statutes relating to the Registration of Births, Deaths, and Marriages; with Notes, Cases, and Appendices. By Herbert Davey and Sydney Davey, LL.B. (Hadden, Best & Co.)—Seeing that Messrs. Davey are able to enumerate no fewer than twenty-five Acts of Parliament, or

portions of Acts, relating directly to the registration of births, deaths, and marriages in England, and fifteen others allied to the same subject, there is an obvious utility in their picking these out from the mass of statutes and bringing them all together into one volume. The convenience of such a work is all the greater at the present time on account of the Marriage Act of 1898, which allows of marriages in Dissenting chapels without the presence of a registrar. This change has occasioned the issue of new regulations for the guidance of registration officers and of the "authorized persons" who are to record these marriages; and such regulations have been duly incorporated in the present volume. The selection of all such Acts and parts of Acts as are relevant and are still in force, and the omission of such as have been repealed, is, in the tangled state of English statutes, a work requiring great care and exactness. In the present case the work appears to be for the most part well done. Almost the only material omission which we have detected is that of section 18, sub-sections 3 and 6, of the Coroners Act, 1887, which certainly should be brought to the eye of the reader along with sections 16 and 17 of the Registration Act of 1874, but, in fact, are nowhere mentioned in the volume. We observe, too, that on p. 116 the writers, referring to certain repeals effected by the Merchant Shipping Act of 1894, twice tell the reader to "see terms" of the repealing section. As they think it important that he should do so, they should have set out the "terms" in this volume. There are also a few small inaccuracies that we have noticed, but they are not in matters of importance, and do not prevent us from concluding that, on the whole, the work is trustworthy. Cross-references, notes of decided cases—only a few, for the law reports do not supply many decisions on the registration law—tables of fees, and lists of the registers and records collected at Somerset House, add to the usefulness of the book. A volume like this naturally suggests the question whether the law on the subject might not with advantage be codified. The chief difficulty in the way of this being done would no doubt lie in the fact that the registration of marriage is most intimately connected with the valid celebration of it, so that a general Registration Act would, perhaps inevitably, either be incomplete or else include much that is not really matter of registration, but is part of the substantive law of marriage.

*The Rights of Local Authorities as regards Private Bills*, by Mr. C. E. Allan (Shaw & Sons), is an excellent little book, if nothing more is expected from it than to carry out the object declared in the preface of explaining the rights possessed by local authorities to promote or oppose Bills in Parliament, and to use their funds for the purpose. The author is too sweeping in his warning to local authorities not to proceed by Bill when they can secure their object by Provisional Order. Though the Borough Funds Act does not extend to a Bill for an object obtainable by Provisional Order, it is the common practice to include such an object in a Bill promoted on other proper grounds, and the practice is economical and convenient. A glaring blunder occurs on p. 8. The author has forgotten that section 6, sub-section (6), of the London Government Act, 1899, extends the Borough Funds Act to the new London municipal bodies.

#### OUR LIBRARY TABLE.

WHEN we consider that in his youth Mr. Thomas Arnold spent his holidays at Fox How, and that Wordsworth, Southey, and Hartley Coleridge were then living, that he was at Oxford during the stress and fervour of "the movement," and that he passed several years of his life with Newman, first in the troubled days when he was endeavouring to establish a Roman Catholic university at Dublin, and afterwards at the



Oratory at Edgbaston, it seems strange that *Pas-sages in a Wandering Life* (Arnold) should be so insipid. The writer tells us nothing of his father, almost nothing of his brothers, little of the Lake poets, and scarcely much more of Newman. What he had to say about Clough appeared two years ago in the *Nineteenth Century*. The most interesting passage in the volume is an account of Wordsworth's presence at a meeting held to oppose the construction of a railway to Windermere:—

"Wilson, whose grand lion-like head I had never seen before, took the chair. He seemed to be pressed for time, and to wish that resolutions adverse to the railway scheme should be speedily passed without much discussion. Dr. Pearson made a sensible practical speech, full of facts and figures, with the view of showing that the railway could never pay—that while it was being built the 'navvies' would be a nuisance, and so on. To all this Prof. Wilson listened patiently. Then Wordsworth got up and made a long rambling speech. Its tone was plaintive and deprecatory, but not at all business-like, verging indeed sometimes on the sentimental. This, however, Wilson would not stand; he interrupted the poet two or three times, brusquely if not rudely, recalling him to the strict tenor of the resolution to which he was speaking. That Wordsworth, considering his great age and little experience of public meetings, should have spoken as he did, was not to be wondered at; the surprising thing was, to see with what ease Christopher North could play the part of a keen man of business."

The following sketch of the poet's appearance may be compared with that by Dean Milman which we quoted some weeks ago. Of course Milman wrote when Wordsworth was middle-aged:—

"Wordsworth's figure was of a rather coarse make, and his step was heavy; the eyes were weak, and usually protected in some way or other; the aquiline nose was too large and thick to be called beautiful, and the mouth and chin, though far from weak, were without distinction. It was the beauty and nobility of the head, the width and poise of the forehead, the manifest adaptation of the 'tenement of clay' to house a majestic and many-sided intellect, which atoned for all minor shortcomings, and fixed the admiring gaze of the beholder."

*William Cowper*, by Marion Harland (Putnam's Sons), is the second, the first is devoted to the Brontës, of a series which bears the not very felicitous title of "Literary Hearthstones," further defined as "Studies of the Home Life of certain Writers and Thinkers." The author is a lady hailing from Pompton, N.J., and her language is American. It is odd to hear of Cowper studying law "when he felt like doing so" (which, by the way, cannot have been often, though he once reported the famous case of *Eyes v. Nose*), and to come across such fearful words as "caption" (for "title") and "grievful," to say nothing of that combined monstrosity "forever," of which the late lamented "C. S. C." made such admirable fun:—

And nevermore must printer do  
As men did long ago; but run  
"For" into "ever," bidding two  
Be one.

Forever! passion-fraught it throws  
O'er the dim page a gloom, a glamour;  
It's sweet, it's strange; and I suppose  
It's grammar.

But it is scarcely fair to make the bard of Olney *particeps criminis* in this connexion by printing the two words as one in a quotation from his correspondence. Upon the literary side of Cowper the author of this fresh study of him does not seem especially strong. She says (p. 30) that Churchill and Colman owned the *St. James's Chronicle*, which was a newspaper, a statement which can only be explained by some confusion of the *Connoisseur* of Colman and Thornton with the *St. James's Magazine* of Robert Lloyd, all of whom, with Churchill, had been Cowper's schoolmates at Westminster. She professes to be a humble learner in our noble vernacular, and trusts that her work may divert to the study of Cowper the "admirers of turgid and erotic modern verse," epithets which are more forcible than fitting. Her book is

written with a certain earnestness and facility. But we are left in doubt as to the special suitability of Cowper for a "literary hearthstone." To dwell by preference upon his tragic and mysterious fate; and to neglect his lucid intervals, his delightful correspondence, and his literary legacy, for his mental conflicts and his attempts at self-destruction—the tendency to which latter the writer traces to his descent through his mother from Donne—seems to us to be an error of presentment. We should have liked the book better if it had given greater prominence to the less gloomy aspect of one who, despite his moments of depression, could be, at times, the most playful of verse writers and the most delightful of humourists. The volume is prettily illustrated with portraits and views, some of the former being from the well-known collection of Mr. Beverley Chew, of New York.

THE librarian of the University Library of Toronto publishes *Preliminary Stages of the Peace of Amiens*, by Mr. H. M. Bowman, being a second series of a work entitled 'History,' edited by Prof. Wrong. Mr. Bowman's essay on the negotiations which led up to the Peace of Amiens is valuable, although we cannot admit the statement made in the opening lines of the introduction that the eighteenth century had been marked by a steady decline of the power of France. The word "steady" appears to us peculiarly inapplicable to the facts. It may possibly be contended that there was a decline in the power of France on the whole, although even that is doubtful, looking to the extreme depression of French power which marked the closing years of the reign of Louis XIV., and to the great strength displayed by France in the early years of the reign of Louis XVI. But "steady decline" is an amazing phrase in face of the military and naval glories of some years of the reigns of both Louis XV. and Louis XVI. We have little other hostile criticism to offer. The statement that the French Government, during the secret negotiations between Bonaparte and the British Government in 1800 and 1801, asked for passports for a French courier to bear messages to London, accompanied as it is by the explanation, "At this period governments tampered systematically with diplomatic correspondence forwarded by the ordinary mails," and references in support of this well-known fact, suggest that things are better in this respect in the present day. This belief, if held by Mr. Bowman, throws some doubt upon his acquaintance with the practices of governments and of diplomacy. There has never been a time in history when the secrecy of the post and telegraph was more systematically violated throughout the world than now.

MESSRS. GEORGE ROBERTSON & Co. publish in Australia, and Messrs. H. Virtue & Co. in London, *Tasmanian Rivers, Lakes, and Flowers*, by A. S. Murray, a beautifully illustrated volume in which the letterpress is of no value, but in which the plates of Tasmanian scenery are of much charm. The author has already produced a similar volume on the Murray river of Australia. But we suggest that a volume of this kind on New Zealand, or even several volumes on New Zealand, would be more attractive outside Australia. The fact is that Australian scenery is monotonous, and that Tasmanian scenery, although better, is not greatly superior to that of Ireland, which it somewhat resembles. Of all countries in the world, and certainly of all British countries, New Zealand offers the greatest attraction to those capable of executing sketches of such feeling as those which adorn this volume. The author does not seem to be aware of the fact that the writers quoted on the horrors of the Tasmanian convict days drew all their facts from the official publication in this country known as the *Transportation Blue-book*.

FOUR more volumes of the "Author's Edition"

of Mark Twain (Chatto & Windus) are now before us, *The Gilded Age* (2 vols.), an experiment in collaboration with Mr. Charles Dudley Warner which was not a success, *Tom Sawyer*, and *Life on the Mississippi*. We cannot conceive why the last of these is squeezed into one volume by the use of solid type and a wider line. It is of the same length as 'A Tramp Abroad,' which was in two volumes, and, being a better book, deserves at least as much space. The illustrations to 'Tom Sawyer' are good. Various portraits of the author in this edition are of interest. His strong serious face appears to have changed little in a long life.

MR. FRANCIS G. WAUGH has brought out a large-paper edition of his two privately printed little books on the *Athenæum Club*, which we noticed when they first appeared.

A NEW edition of *Lavengro* (Murray) is annotated in a laborious fashion by Prof. Knapp. The text is that of the edition of 1851, and the unpublished episodes have been inserted. People may question Mr. Knapp's discretion, but his industry is beyond dispute.

THE *Stock Exchange Official Intelligence* (Spottiswoode & Co.) remains a model to other directories in its exactness and clearness. Mr. Arthur J. Chitty contributes a lucid article on 'Company Law in 1899.'—Another admirable volume is *The Annual Charities Register and Digest* (Longmans & Co.), to which Mr. Loch contributes a thoughtful introduction.—*The Advertiser's Ready Reckoner* of Mr. C. J. Walker is a highly serviceable guide which has reached a second issue.

WE have received the first issue of a new venture, *Vickers's Newspaper Gazetteer*, a carefully compiled annual, evidently the work of one well acquainted with the press.

*Das deutsche Vaterland im 19 Jahrhundert*, by Albert Pfister (Stuttgart, Deutsche Verlags-Anstalt), is a pretty full account for popular reading of the political and economic history of Germany in the present century. Dr. Pfister makes a gallant and, of course, unsuccessful attempt to show that Bismarck did not devise the Hohenzollern candidature as a means for bringing about a war with France.

WE have on our table *Madame de Longueville*, by Mrs. Alfred Cock (Smith & Elder),—*Five Great Oxford Leaders*, by the Rev. A. B. Donaldson (Rivingtons),—*Early Critical Reviews on Robert Burns*, edited by J. D. Ross (Glasgow, Hodge),—*Britain and the Boers*, by L. Appleton (Simpkin),—*Natives under the Transvaal Flag*, by the Rev. J. H. Bovill (Simpkin),—*Elementary Chemistry*, by A. L. Arey (Macmillan),—*The Principles of Mechanics*, by H. Hertz, English Translation by D. E. Jones and J. T. Walley (Macmillan),—*Useful Arts and Handicrafts*, by C. G. Leland and H. S. Ward, Vol. I. (Dawbarn & Ward),—*How to Tell the Nationality of Old Violins*, by Balfour & Co. (Balfour & Co., 11, Rood Lane),—*Fellow Wayfarers*, by L. Tylor (Grant Richards),—*Frithof the Viking of Norway and Roland the Paladin of France*, by Z. A. Ragozin (Putnam),—*The Epistle of St. Paul's First Trial*, by R. R. Smith (Cambridge, Macmillan & Bowes),—*Church and Faith: being Essays on the Teaching of the Church of England*, by Dr. Wace and others (Blackwood),—*Tennyson as a Religious Teacher*, by C. F. G. Masterman (Methuen),—*Life beyond Death*, by M. J. Savage (Putnam),—*Studies in Religious Fallacy*, by J. M. Robertson (Watts & Co.),—*The Hebrew Tragedy*, by Col. C. R. Conder (Blackwood),—*The Vicar's Wife; or, the Great City: a Tale in Verse*, by E. Thomas (Richardson),—*Christus Victor: a Student's Reverie*, by H. N. Dodge (Putnam),—and *Le Lys d'Or*, by Louis Létang (Paris, Lévy).

## LIST OF NEW BOOKS.

## ENGLISH.

- Theology.**  
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 Costelloe (B. F. C.), The Gospel Story, cr. 8vo. 6/  
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## 'LITERARY LONDON.'

31y Place, Holborn, E.C., March 13, 1900.

THE attention of Miss Marie Corelli has been called to a letter published by you in your issue of the 10th inst. in which Mr. Ryan denies that the book 'Literary London,' published in 1898, led to a libel action by Miss Corelli.

We are instructed by this lady to inform you that we, on her behalf, threatened to bring an action for libel against the publisher of the book, and that to avoid such an action he, on April 12th, 1898, gave a written undertaking not to sell any more copies of the book until the passages complained of were eliminated, and offered to Miss Corelli an adequate apology.

LEWIS & LEWIS.

## DICKENS AND YORKSHIRE SCHOOLS.

Oxford, March 10, 1900.

HAVING occasion to consult the *Times* of June 29th, 1838, I lighted in its educational column on an advertisement which will, I venture to think, be read with interest side by side with Mr. Squeers's scholastic announcement in 'Nicholas Nickleby':—

## The Times.

At Mr. Simpson's Academy near Richmond, Yorkshire, youth are boarded and instructed by Mr. S., in whatever their future may require, at 20 or 23 guineas a year, according to age. No extras, and no vacations living or dead. Terms Cards with references to be had from Mr. S., who attends daily from 12 to 2 o'clock at the Saracen's Head, Snow Hill. Conveyance by steam vessel weekly.

## Nickleby.

At Mr. Wackford Squeers's Academy, Dotheboys Hall, near Greta Bridge in Yorkshire, youth are boarded, clothed, booked, furnished with pocket-money, instructed in all languages living or dead. Terms twenty guineas per annum. No extras, no vacations, and diet unparalleled. Mr. S. is in town, and attends daily from one till four at the Saracen's Head, Snow Hill.

There are other similar advertisements in the same column, but none so evidently the prototype of the immortal Wackford's. There is certainly something audacious about the parallel: the locality (for Greta Bridge is, of course, quite near Richmond), the terms, the initial "Mr. S.," and, above all, the rendezvous at the Saracen's Head. It is worth noticing that the serial publication of 'Nickleby' began in April, 1838, and was therefore actually in progress when the above advertisement was appearing daily in the leading London newspaper.

Mr. Simpson, it will be observed, recommends his "load of infant misery" to travel, not by coach, but by "steam vessel," a method of conveyance hardly more expeditious or less uncomfortable, it is to be feared, in those days and under those circumstances, than that by which the young noblemen and gentlemen journeyed down to Yorkshire under the personal convoy of their "guide, philosopher, and friend," Mr. Squeers.

DAVID O. HUNTER-BLAIR.

## NOTES FROM PARIS.

THE fire at the Comédie Française, which has demolished the *salle* of the theatre since the following lines were written, lends a poignant interest to this letter to the *Athenæum*. It may be said, however, that the records preserved there and the library are intact, as are almost all—or, it may be said, all—the works of art, including the 'Voltaire' of Houdon and the famous 'Molière.' Also, the Comédie will act at the Opéra and the Odéon without any intermission. Paris still possesses her admirable band of actors, and my references to the Exhibition and its success are unaffected by this great disaster.

I need hardly say that nothing is being talked about in the world of drama and literature but the new piece by M. Edmond Rostand, 'L'Aiglon.' The long-excited curiosity of the public will have been satisfied by the time these lines appear, and I fancy that the famous recita-

tions of the 'Lucrèce' of Ponsard, when the poet Charles Reynaud repeated in the *cafés* of the Latin Quarter fine passages of the still unknown tragedy of his friend, were not more warmly received than the play at Madame Sarah Bernhardt's theatre.

Every one, from the actress who manages the theatre and plays the Duke of Reichstadt to the smallest of the actors, is delighted, and this is a rare occurrence in the theatrical world. The actor who has the part of a *vieux grenadier*, has been reciting here and there among intimates passages full of thrill. Rarely, it may be said, has a play been more eagerly expected. The friends of the author declare that 'L'Aiglon' is superior to 'Cyrano de Bergerac,' and the critics will in all probability endorse the opinion of the admirers of M. Rostand, who, young as he is, has reached the full blaze of fame. Undoubtedly 'L'Aiglon' makes a more obvious appeal to our feelings than the triumphant 'Cyrano.' The King of Rome will profit at the theatre from the new lease of popularity bestowed—from the point of view of history and art, if not that of politics—on the figure of Napoleon I. Since the publication of the 'Memoirs' of Marbot, which represent, as it were, the 'Three Musketeers' of the imperial epic, the uniforms, the fashions, the souvenirs of the Empire, are all the vogue. The plume of Cyrano will take as a natural pendant the tuft of the grenadier who is loyal to the little King of Rome, now an Austrian Archduke.

This is not the first time that the Duke of Reichstadt has trodden the boards. I saw once at the Ambigu a melodrama, the 'Roi de Rome,' in which the reproduction of a striking picture—famous in its day—representing the emperor's son asleep on his father's knees whilst Caesar read despatches, made a great hit. Not so long ago we had at the Grand Théâtre of the Rue Blanche a 'Roi de Rome' derived from a book by M. Pouvillon, a story-teller of rare merit. It evoked one evening loud Bonapartist shouts of applause, the youthful voters of Paris being in force at the theatre, if I remember right, with a flag.

The clever adapter of M. Pouvillon's dialogue forgot, however, a striking detail—a dramatic scene. The Duke of Reichstadt alone in his room at Schönbrunn was reading the story of the Italian campaign, the victories of his father, when from outside through the open window there came to him the refrain of a song sung in the gardens by a disguised French soldier:—

Et cependant je suis à Vienne!

It was a refrain of Béranger's, which, like a lament for his fatherland, came to pierce the heart of the young exiled prince. The effect of it would, I think, have been great. I do not know why the episode was not transferred from the book to the theatre.

M. Rostand has not forgotten these opportunities for emotional display, and these dramas are, to speak generally, Béranger in action. Poor Béranger! He has had a good many hard things said about him; he has been regarded as a kind of epic poet in the cotton bonnet and muffled egg style. People have laughed at his verses, and even attacked his good nature, choosing to regard it as the height of deceit. The truth is that this very simple poet is still a poet of great force. He is not complicated, he does not think of rising to an ode. He is content to be the singer of the people. But he has gone so deeply into the soul of this people that in a moment his refrains wake to life, and his couplets, well recited, in spite of lack of form, lose none of their old force. "I am certain," said Dumas the younger to me one day, "that if Theresa set about singing the 'Souvenirs du Peuple' of Béranger on the stage of the Variétés, she would make all Paris rush to hear her!"

And is it not singular how this figure of Napoleon retains its hold over the crowd? It



is now no more than a figure of legend, but the legend is stronger than history. I read the other day in the journal of a magistrate of Leipzig, which has been translated into French, a most ironical incident. For years and years this city of Leipzig was scoured by troops, overwhelmed by billeting, ruined by the war. A few years later, just after 1815, a drama entitled 'Napoléon,' and an actor who was like the emperor feature for feature, secured full and enthusiastic audiences of Germans. No one talked of anything but having seen the piece; people rushed to the box-office to see—and see again—that Napoleon who, booted and spurred, had not long since passed through the town at the head of his troops.

Are not peoples like children? Power attracts them. So it is that Paris loves 'L'Aiglon,' and that the first great show offered to the public at the Exhibition will be a revival by the Comédie Française of 'Patrie,' M. Sardou's drama, which will be represented under especially artistic conditions. We want to achieve a real reproduction of Brussels at the time of the Spanish domination. Spectators love these tableaux, and are increasingly attentive to the mere framing of literary pieces. The influence of the English theatre and the trouble it takes about the *mise en scène* have contributed something to this movement. I remember how I was struck by English scenery the first time I came to London. On reviving 'Diane de Lys,' a comedy of Dumas the younger which dates from 1850, I said to myself that the means to make the piece young again was to make the costumes old and dress the characters as they had appeared in the time of Gavarni.

It is not easy always to preserve scrupulous truth on the stage, especially when the *coquetterie* of actresses is endangered. Some years since an actor of talent, now rather forgotten, Léon Gozlan, the author of a masterpiece of irony which those who do not know it will be glad to read, the 'Aventures d'Aristide Froissart,' produced at the Théâtre Français a comedy of adventure called the 'Gâteau des Reines.' It told the episode of the marriage of Marie Lecinska with Louis XV., and all the princesses who surrounded the throne took a piece from the "gâteau des rois" to see who would be queen. And the daughter of the King of Poland finally secured the prize. The manager of the Comédie, who was then, I think, still Arsène Houssaye, resolved to render this piece in luxuriously accurate style, and make it a reproduction of an eighteenth century at once elegant and smart. He gave an order for the dresses to Meissonier, who knew as well as Cochin or Portail, or any of the masters so admirably studied by Lady Dilke, the fashions of the last century, and the painter decided to give a few water colours of great accuracy to the costumier. But then there were fine cries among the actors! These corsages, these panniers, these sleeves, appeared to them impossible; and one of them, who had much wit and as much wit as talent, Augustine Brohan, said, "Really M. Meissonier is making fools of us. Does he take us for our grandmothers?"

Times have, it seems, changed, for the actresses of to-day are delighted, I hear, with the robes dear to Winterhalter and the portrait-painters of his time. And the public has taken pleasure in this reproduction of bygone fashions. I am certain that the success of the exhibition of the pictures of Alfred Stevens at the Quai Malaquais is due as much to the attraction provided for the curious in the toilettes of a bygone age as to the really masterly merit of this painter of modern life. The intimate manners and elegancies of the Second Empire are already the life of yesterday. Its *coquetteries* have been destroyed by the new fashions, yet they continue alluring, thanks to some indefinite archaeological charm apart from the superior virtuosity of the artist.

The Comédie has held its exhibition of

Stevens, said a witty Academician, in view of the costumes of 'Diane de Lys,' which amuse the women of to-day who are playgoers and elicit the question, "Is it possible that they dressed like that?" Yes, it is Stevens; and the actual fashions, those that are most secure, will one day appear as obsolete as these elegancies of the past. We are promised at the Exhibition a kind of retrospective museum of feminine toilettes. Some will be exquisite, others ridiculous. What has been an attraction becomes very soon a caricature. The frolic of to-day is the masquerade of to-morrow. And here I recall the everlasting remark of the astonished visitors: "Is it possible that they dressed like that?"

This Exhibition is (and it is not likely that any one will maintain the contrary) the chief subject of a public opinion anxious for unruffled peace and for the magnificent spectacle of feminine toilettes. Some will be exquisite, others ridiculous. What has been an attraction becomes very soon a caricature. The frolic of to-day is the masquerade of to-morrow. And here I recall the everlasting remark of the astonished visitors: "Is it possible that they dressed like that?"

There will be really two exhibitions—one severe and solid, in the official precinct; the other, an original half-itinerant show, on the bank of the river, with all sorts of Protean attractions. I should like these side-shows, cabarets of Montmartre, transported to the Champs Élysées with fantastic booths and Aristophanic characters, to be all sure of attracting the crowd. But there are so many of them! They swarm. Will there be really time to see everything? Hardly will the fairyland begin before its end begins to show itself. Six or seven months pass so quickly! And after, what will be the new dream of Paris? I know not. We have not every day new cities to build, cardboard palaces to construct, districts to tear up, underground railways to make. Meanwhile, our Paris lives in hope on the fair dreams of to-morrow, and the discussions of politicians, the new books, the most serious occupations, all disappear before this happy perspective: the Exhibition is going to open!

I hope it will bring no disappointments to those who hope. JULES CLARETIE.

#### SALE.

MESSRS. SOTHEY, WILKINSON & HODGE sold last week books from the library of the late Mr. Charles Leeson Prince, of Crowborough Observatory, Sussex, amongst which were the following: Spenser's Faerie Queene, with Colin Clout, first edition, 1590-5-6, 65s. Brandt's Ship of Fools, by Barclay, 1570, 30s. Year-Books, 1518-32, 14s. Curtis's Botanical Magazine, vols. i.-lxviii., 14s. Collection Spitzer, *édition de luxe*, 1890, 20s. 10s. Dean Swift, Travels of Lemuel Gulliver, first edition, largest paper, 1726, 88s. Archæologia Cantiana, 22 vols., 10s. Sussex Archæological Collections, 41 vols., 15s. 10s. Notes and Queries, 94 vols., and Indexes to the Fourth, Sixth, Seventh, and Eighth Series, 12s. 10s. Copernicus de Revolutionibus Orbium Coelestium, 1543, 10s. Chaucer's Works (imperfect), T. Godfray, 1532, 12s. 10s. Missale Sarisburiense, Paris, 1555, 28s. 10s. Nuremberg Chronicle, 13s. 10s. Ortus

Sanitatis, Mogunt., 1491, 40s. Pickering's Black-Letter Prayer Books, 7 vols., 9s. 5s.

#### THE BIBLIOGRAPHY OF WALTER SAVAGE LANDOR.

I AM glad that Mr. Ralph Thomas, while rightly correcting my blunder, agrees with me that the "Octogenarian" (not Centenarian) who wrote 'Hebrew Lyrics' was not Walter Savage Landor. This point, perhaps, may now be looked on as settled. We are no nearer, though, to the author of 'Guy's Porridge Pot' with the Dun Cow Roasted Whole, London, 1809. On p. xxi of the second edition, published the same year, is an "advertisement" in which the author protests that the critics were mistaken as to his identity. One of them, he observes, had attributed 'Guy's Porridge Pot' to a gentleman "very well known for political satire." This, the writer says, was absurd. He proceeds:—

"A verse to the fondness of mammas and the ignorance of fox-hunters, is a verse; and he who can write a verse must be a very fine and perhaps even an uncommon fellow. Still to elevate such a writer into notice, some one must be idiot enough to prosecute him. For God's sake, courteous and benevolent reader! do pray call me anything you please, tell me to my face that I am a blockhead or a scoundrel.....but attribute not, from your justice I beseech it, from your compassion, my poetry to him."

Now the versifier with whom the anonymous writer wishes not to be identified is, I think, Walter Savage Landor; for the reference seems to be to the verses quoted in Forster's 'Life of Landor,' first edition, i. 202. I have not met with them elsewhere. On the other hand, against the theory that Mr. Bertie Greathead, or Greathead, wrote 'Guy's Porridge Pot' must be set the fact that this gentleman is also mentioned with slight respect in the poem. My copy, I should explain, contains manuscript notes in which the names of various Warwickshire worthies are supplied. Thus, in the lines—

Thou chattering, pompous, empty-pated,  
Half-reasoning, rhyming, prosing —  
I'll bait thee as thou shouldst be baited—

we are to insert Greathead, as also in the couplet:—

So Jack came last, and no one waited  
The rap of Della Cruscan —

Mr. Bertie Greathead was one of the Florentine Della Cruscan attacked by Gifford in the 'Baviad' and 'Mæviad':—

E'en Bertie burns of gods and chiefs to sing,  
Bertie who lately twitter'd to the string  
His namby-pamby madrigals of love,  
In the dark-dingles of a glittery grove.

I do not know if any one has noticed that Gifford, in a note, spoke of "the odes of that deep-mouthed Theban, Bertie Greathead, Esq." Byron stole the phrase, and applied it in the often-quoted lines in 'Don Juan' to

That deep-mouth'd Boottian, Savage Landor.

The main argument against the theory that Walter Landor wrote 'Guy's Porridge Pot' is the fact that it is an ill-natured satire on his great friend Dr. Parr. For all that, Parr wrote in his copy of the book—see the catalogue of his library—"by my very ingenious neighbour, Walter Landor." The doctor, by the way, also had a copy of the *Florentine Miscellany*—the Della Cruscan publication—"the gift," he wrote, "of my enlightened friend, Bertie Greathead, Esq., who contributed to this periodical."

I will only add that in the *Courier*, March 21st, 1812, there is a column of satiric verses in dispraise of Dr. Parr, signed "Socius, Oxford, March 16." The notes, with elaborate Latin quotations, remind one strongly of 'Guy's Porridge Pot.' Possibly both were by Robert Eyres Landor.

STEPHEN WHEELER.

## THE ROYAL ACADEMY OF BERLIN.

THE programmes of the great bicentenary celebration, to be held at Berlin on the 19th and 20th inst., have at last been sent out, at the eleventh hour. There seems to have been some uncertainty about the arrangements, and possibly the grandest item was not to be settled very easily. The German Emperor has undertaken to address the assembled savants in person. When *Allerhöchstselbe* comes into the affair it is quite likely that the etiquette of the Court and the requirements of the learned are not harmonized without careful accommodation. It is, however, in keeping with the high traditions of the German Court that royalty should not (as in some countries that we know) treat learning with contempt, and that the Emperor should thoroughly recognize the importance of the great Academy in lending dignity to his capital and to the old kingdom of Prussia. A great collection of celebrated men from all parts of Europe will be there to congratulate the august body to whose initiative the 'Corpus Inscript. Græc.' and the edition of 'Aristotle and his Commentators' are due. There will be feasts, formal and informal, operas, concerts, &c.; but what will be the most delightful of all, eminent men who have known one another through books and through correspondence for half a lifetime will meet and see one another in the flesh, and hear one another's living voice. We hope to give an account of the festival in an early number.

## THE SPRING PUBLISHING SEASON.

MESSRS. SWAN SONNENSCHN & Co.'s spring books include: History, Biography, &c., 'The Land of the Moors,' by B. Meakin,—Fort St. George, Madras, from the old records by Mrs. F. Penny,—'The Women of the Renaissance,' by R. de M. La Clavière, translated by G. H. Ely,—'The Campaigns of the Derbyshire Regiment: No. 2, The 95th (the Derbyshire) Regiment in Central India,' by General Sir J. Raines; No. 3, 'The 2nd Battalion Derbyshire Regiment in the Egyptian Campaign of 1882,' by Major E. A. G. Gosset,—in the 'Social England Series,' 'Course of Industrial Empire,' by R. W. Cooke-Taylor,—'Ethics and Religion,' essays by Sir J. Seeley, Dr. F. Adler, Prof. H. Sidgwick, and others,—'Our Records of the Nativity,' by J. Thomas,—'Mammalia,' by the Rev. H. A. Macpherson,—'Birds' Eggs and Nests,' by W. C. J. R. Butterfield,—'The Training of the Body for Games, Athletics, and Exercise,' by Dr. Schmidt and E. H. Miles,—'Primer of the Physiological Action of Alcohol,' by E. J. Norris,—'The Romance of the Earth,' by A. W. Bickerton,—'Biological Types in the Vegetable Kingdom,' by W. M. Webb,—'Eros and Psyche and the First Book of the Iliad of Homer,' by E. Carpenter,—'Eros's Throne,' a Book of Verse, by G. Ives,—Herbert, a poem, by W. Marshall,—'Atlantis, the Book of the Angels,' interpreted by D. B. Metcalf,—'The Adversary Walketh About,' by Mrs. C. Agnew,—'All Fools,' by M. W. Pickthall,—'Some Social and Political Pioneers of the Nineteenth Century,' by R. Balmforth,—'Commerce and Christianity,' by G. F. Millin,—'The Science of Civilisation,' by C. B. Phipson,—'The Sound and Sight Method of Teaching French,' by H. T. Mark,—'Early Childhood,' by M. McMillan,—'Standard Plays for Amateur Performance in Girls' Schools,' arranged by E. Fogarty,—and a number of other volumes on philosophy and science previously announced last autumn.

Messrs. Charles Griffin & Co. announce: 'The Principles and Construction of Pumping Machinery,' by H. Davey,—'Road Making and Maintenance,' by T. Aitken,—'The Metallurgy of Steel,' by F. W. Harbord,—'The Cyanide Process of Gold Extraction,' by James Park,—'A Dictionary of Dye-Chemicals,' by C. Rawson, W. M. Gardner, and W. F. Laycock,—'A Dictionary of Textile Fibres,' by W. J. Hannan,—'Practical Coal Mining,' by G. L. Kerr,—

'Flesh Foods,' by C. A. Mitchell,—and 'Marine Meteorology,' by W. Allingham.

Messrs. Seeley & Co. announce: Thomas Girtin, his Life and Works, by Laurence Binyon,—General John Jacob of the Scinde Light Horse, by A. I. Shand,—Emma Marshall: a Memoir by her Daughter, B. Marshall,—'The Secret of the Presence, and other Sermons,' by the Rev. H. C. G. Moule,—'Our Fleet To-day,' by Capt. S. E. Wilmot, a new edition of 'The Development of Navies,'—and several other reissues.

Mr. George Allen will publish: 'Abbotsholme (1889-1899), and An Educational Atlas,' by C. Reddie,—'Turner and Ruskin,' by F. Wedmore,—and 'Dilecta,' in 3 parts, by Ruskin, forming a third volume to 'Præterita.'

## FOREIGN JOURNALISTS IN LONDON.

II.

THE visit of foreign journalists to London, of which a preliminary notice appeared in the *Athenæum* of the 3rd inst., is over, and has passed off not merely without a hitch, but with attendant circumstances of the most fortunate character.

Not only has the meeting itself been remarkable for harmony and good understanding on the part of both guests and hosts, but a number of unexpected coincidental advantages have, like the stars in their courses, fought for us to enhance the brilliancy and interest of the occasion. We have had Her Majesty the Queen in her capital during our friends' stay; we have had beautiful weather, and the streets of London thronged with good-humoured and orderly crowds, and every face has reflected, every heart has rejoiced at, the good news from South Africa. Small wonder if our continental visitors found their traditional prejudices concerning England and London incontinently upset by this cheerful turn of things. Gloomy old London lay smiling in the spring sunshine; its inhabitants, neither *brutal* nor *triste*, were parading the streets in family bands, frequently accompanied by "des khakis," an interesting new development, and in a state of gaiety which was actually contagious. Above all, that lady who is at once the Queen and the mother of her people was in their midst, and it needed neither politician nor prophet to explain the influence of her presence. No emotional element of success was wanting to make our international meeting one of deep and unusual significance.

The work on which the Bureau Central was employed in its sittings at the Stationers' Hall was the compilation of a programme of subjects to be brought before the Seventh Congress of the Press at Paris in July next. The discussions were naturally private, but it is no breach of confidence to mention that the adoption of an international press code, the reduction of postal and telegraphic charges for press matter, an educational scheme and an arbitration scheme in affairs journalistic, were all accepted as subjects for Congress consideration, while an inquiry into the social, moral, and material status of the journalists of all countries was determined upon. In this connexion the three English papers which I mentioned in a previous article, upon, respectively, 'Press Laws,' 'Ideals in Journalism,' and 'Advantages of Association,' were provisionally accepted, and it is hoped that two of them, at least, will be read before the Congress in July. That Englishmen in press matters can be both high-minded and practical was frankly conceded, and this combination has its attraction for the executive committee, composed as it is of an almost equally balanced number of idealists and materialists.

The visit to the Houses of Parliament, arranged through the kindness of Mr. Henniker Heaton, was memorable for a sight of Lord Salisbury speaking in the Lords and

Mr. Goschen in the Commons. There was an eager demand for Mr. Chamberlain, and some surprise shown that he had not his place in the Upper House, which amused his colleagues, though they confessed that equivalent niceties of the Senate and the Chamber might puzzle themselves. The lunch given by the Linotype Company at the Hotel Cecil was rendered remarkable by the manly and eloquent speech of Sir Henry Bemrose, M.P., a director of the company, who prayed his hearers, English and foreign, to dwell less upon superficial differences of opinion and more upon the "deep things," the privileges and responsibilities of their high calling. The entertainment at the Mansion House touched a new note, and brought into prominence the past and present greatness of the City of London, the London of history, of commerce, and, above all, of freedom, which was also, as M. Singer put it in his reply to the Lord Mayor's speech of welcome, "the London which Dickens and Thackeray had made known to and beloved of all the world!"

Our guests, the representatives of a dozen different countries and of over five hundred different newspapers, have gone their ways to spread their newly constructed opinions of England over all the earth; they have left with their colleagues of the press an impression of courtesy, of self-restraint, and especially of a desire to please, of all characteristics in a guest the most pleasing. We hope at some future time to learn that the remembrance of us that they carry with them is no less satisfactory.

G. B. STUART.

## BOOKSELLERS' ROW.

THE longevity of a doomed street is often truly amazing. Since the removal of its twin abomination, Middle Row, Holborn, over thirty years ago, Booksellers' Row (or more correctly Holywell Street) has been on the point of coming down. But it has until the last few weeks weathered the storm, outliving many of its older inhabitants who had hoped to retire comfortably on liberal compensations. Now that the London County Council has placed its icy grip on the place, its final disappearance is only a matter of months. The Strand half of the southern side of the street is already nearly demolished, but it may be two years before the insulated block is removed in its entirety.

The disappearance of the old place cannot be viewed but with regret by book-collectors, and the only wonder is that it ever survived the general clearance which the Law Courts involved. Of history, Booksellers' Row, like the needy knife-grinder, has none. It is mentioned in Strype as a place inhabited by "divers salesmen and piece-brokers." It never has had much to boast of in the way of reputation, and until Lord Campbell's Act it had a good deal to be ashamed of. So far as bookselling is concerned its history is of comparatively recent date. Until about half a century ago it was the chief resort of Jew clothes dealers, and was, according to Mackay's edition of J. T. Smith's 'Ramble in the Streets of London,' "a rather dangerous street for quietly disposed people of shabby gentility to pass through." When the vendors of second-hand clothes and indecent literature occupied the shops, the upper parts, being handy to Fleet Street and Paternoster Row, were largely inhabited by the lower strata of journalists, publishers' hacks, and men who were quite safe in its manifold intricacies from the clutches of the sheriff's officers. A writer in the *Press News* of October, 1887, describing the street as it was half a century before that date, stigmatizes it as the Grub Street of the period. The upper back rooms were let off as private literary clubs, in which casual newspaper correspondents would frequently gather to get up foreign correspondence, on war topics especially. The same writer tells us that Dr. Maginn was a frequent



visitor to this street, "the intricacies of which enabled him and other literary gentlemen of the same type to elude the myrmidons of the law for long periods at a stretch." Each of the houses appears to have had many exits, and even a sheriff's officer could not be in six doorways at one time. In the second decade of the present century in two houses in this street was exhibited a collection of wild animals; but for many years it was most generally known for printed matter, which Mr. Diprose, in his account of the parish, modestly describes as "of a class totally unfitted to circulate among respectable people."

It has been a favourite locality with reputable second-hand booksellers for about fifty years, and the late Mr. Henry R. Hill commenced business at his well-known corner shop over forty years ago. Mr. Charles Hindley, who succeeded his father-in-law, has been in business in the same street for a very long period. Thomas Arthur, who was succeeded by his assistant, W. Ridler, was also long established in this street, and made a respectable fortune out of bookselling here. Joseph Poole, whose quaint semi-clerical attire was curiously out of place in this locality, had a shop here for many years, and his family still continue to carry on the business.

It is recorded that Queen Charlotte sometimes went book-hunting in Holywell Street, attended only by one of her ladies. The shades of many mighty book-hunters still linger about the place. As far back as 1823 John Payne Collier was a visitor, for in that year he picked up a copy of Hughes's 'Calypso and Telemachus' for half-a-crown. This copy belonged to Pope, who had inscribed in his own autograph thirty-eight couplets addressed 'To Mr. Hughes, on his Opera.' Macaulay, as we know from two charming papers which the late Mr. Thoms contributed to the *Nineteenth Century* some years ago, obtained many of his curious and out-of-the-way books from booksellers in this street. At one time Mr. Gladstone was an occasional visitor. The "finds" which have been made in Booksellers' Row are legion, but many are probably apocryphal. Shelley's copy of Ossian's 'Poems,' with the poet's autograph on the title-page, is said to have been purchased for a few pence; it is also said that a fine copy of 'Le Pastissier François,' 1655, was a few years ago found bound up with a worthless little tract; and that a copy of the first edition of Horne's 'Orion' was bagged for twopence. A great quantity of useful and valuable books, at prices far below catalogue values, have undoubtedly been obtained in this old street, but probably very few real bargains. The only "bargain" which I have purchased there during many years of constant visits was a worthless little book of poetry, for which I gave sixpence, and which (having no earthly interest in the book) I put into an auction, where it was purchased by an American agent for 2l. I have, doubtless like hundreds of other frequenters of slender means, purchased in Booksellers' Row many useful and interesting books which are now, as one of its bibliophiles once expressed himself, difficult of "procuration," and are very much enhanced in value. The existence of the old place is, from an architectural point of view, an anachronism, but its removal will be keenly felt by many hundreds of book-collectors.

W. ROBERTS.

### Literary Gossip.

THE next volume of the 'Dictionary of National Biography,' which is to be published on March 26th, extends from William to Worden. Mr. Thomas Secombe writes on Sir Joseph Williamson and on Mrs. Henry Wood; Mr. Sidney Lee on John Wilmot, second Earl of Rochester,

and on George Wither; Mr. W. P. Courtney on James Wilson the politician and on Sir Matthew Wood, Alderman; Dr. Richard Garnett on "Christopher North" and on Thomas Woolner, sculptor and poet; Mr. E. Irving Carlyle on John Wilson and on Joseph Wolff, missionaries; Mr. Cosmo Monkhouse on Richard Wilson, landscape painter; Col. Vetch on General Sir Robert Thomas Wilson; the Rev. Alexander Gordon on Dr. Thomas Wilson, Bishop of Sodor and Man; Mr. d'Arcy Power on Sir Erasmus Wilson; Prof. Tout on Archbishop Winchelsea; Mr. A. F. Pollard on Sir Francis Windebank, Secretary of State; Mr. J. A. Hamilton on William Windham the statesman and on William Page Wood, Baron Hatherley; Mr. Joseph Knight on Lewis Wingfield and on Peg Woffington; Mr. T. G. Law on Thomas Winter, the Gunpowder Plot conspirator; Prof. J. K. Laughton on Admiral Sir William Winter; Mr. Charles Kent on Cardinal Wiseman; Sheriff Mackay on George Wishart, Scottish reformer; Mr. Andrew Lang on (Sir) Charles Wogan; Mr. William Carr on John Wolcott ("Peter Pindar"); Col. E. M. Lloyd on General James Wolfe; Mr. C. Litton Falkiner on Charles Wolfe, author of 'The Burial of Sir John Moore'; Mr. Leslie Stephen on William Wollaston; Mr. P. J. Hartog and Dr. C. H. Lees on William Hyde Wollaston; Dr. James Gairdner on Cardinal Wolsey; the Rev. Andrew Clark on Anthony à Wood; Mr. B. B. Woodward on John George Wood, writer on natural history; Mr. Fraser Rae on Henry Sampson Woodfall, printer and journalist; Mr. James Tait on Anthony Woodville, second Earl Rivers, and on Worcester the chronicler; Mr. F. M. O'Donoghue on William Woollett the engraver; and Mr. E. Gordon Duff on Wynkyn de Worde.

THE sixty-third and concluding volume of the 'Dictionary of National Biography,' bringing the work from Wordsworth to the end of the alphabet, will appear at the end of June.

UNDER the title of 'The Green Flag, and other Stories of War and Sport,' Messrs. Smith, Elder & Co. will publish at the end of this month a volume of stories by Dr. Conan Doyle, who is now on his way to South Africa to serve on a Field Hospital staff. As the title indicates, all the stories, which are described as the "survival of the fittest" in Dr. Conan Doyle's work of the last six years, are concerned with war and sport.

THE 'History of the English Church during the Civil Wars and under the Commonwealth,' by Mr. W. A. Shaw, Litt.D., editor of the 'Calendar of Treasury Papers,' which Messrs. Longman will publish, fills two volumes, and details the nature and course of the revolutionary resettlement of the national Church during the years 1640-1660, particular and full attention being devoted to the question of financial administration and the exercise of patronage. A large body of documentary evidence is also added which should be of use to county and parochial historians, as well as to the larger student of constitutional and Church history.

THE April part of *Chambers's Journal*, besides a paper on 'Carlyle and Robert

Chambers,' by the editor, Mr. C. E. S. Chambers, with five unpublished letters from Carlyle, will also contain an article, 'About Shelley's Edinburgh Marriage: a Discovery.' This has reference to the record recently found, in an old manuscript volume belonging to the City Session Clerk of Edinburgh, of the declaration made with a view to the proclamation of banns of marriage between Percy Bysshe Shelley and Harriet Westbrook, dated August 28th, 1811. The entry, which is longer than that in the parochial register in the Register House, is signed by the poet and two Edinburgh householders, who thus, as pointed out in the article, appended their names to the doubtful statement that Harriet Westbrook had been resident in St. Andrew's parish, Edinburgh, for six weeks, when the presumption is that she and Shelley had only come to town on the previous day. This newly discovered entry, set over against the more meagre one in the Register House of the same date, which Prof. Dowden and the 'Dictionary of National Biography' accept as the date of Shelley's marriage, makes it doubtful if any marriage ceremony ever took place. An attempt is made in the paper to trace the identity of the two householders who signed the register of the City Session Clerk. Other articles in the same *Chambers* are 'Transvaal Reminiscences; or, Besieged in Pretoria,' by W. S. Fletcher; 'Canadian Loyalty to the Crown,' by Mr. MacDonald Oxley; and 'The Waterways of Venezuela,' by Major Stanley Paterson.

THE Marquis of Bute is preparing for issue 'A Form of Prayers' following the Church office, for the use of those who are prevented by sickness or other causes from hearing mass on Sundays and holidays. Messrs. Burns & Oates will be the publishers.

MR. WHISTLER has just completed in his Paris studio a portrait of Cassandra Vivaria (Mrs. W. Heinemann), the author of 'Via Lucis.'

MESSRS. GRENFELL AND HUNT are said to have been again fortunate in finding a number of valuable papyri—this time in the Fayyum.

PROF. BURY'S 'History of Greece' is all in print and almost ready for publication. He is going to Sicily for the Easter vacation.

THE new volume of the "House of Lords' Manuscripts," being vol. i. new series, and containing papers 1693 to 1695, published by the Stationery Office at the price of 2s. 9d., is of remarkable interest for all those who care about the fleet. The king in the speech of 1693 recommended "enquiry into the late miscarriages at sea." There appears to have been in those days, as in the present, a "deficiency of seamen," and a large number of men-of-war were in harbour in the moment of our great difficulties from "want of crews." Great complaints were made of the badness of the bread and beer. The Admiralty were in debt, and the Commons, in trying to clear the Government, were only able to find "that there was sufficient beer on board the main fleet." The whole volume reads like a gigantic pamphlet by the Navy League, and the same complaint is made of the want of cruisers as is now made on the same subject in almost the

same words. Some of the language of the admirals in their complaints to the Admiralty is of philological interest; for example, the use of "damnify" in the sentence: "A great deal of bread has been damnified for want of the bread-room being tinned as heretofore."

SIR EDWARD MAUNDE THOMPSON'S paper on 'The Development of the Forms of Letters in English Handwriting,' which was unavoidably postponed in January, will be read by him at the meeting of the Bibliographical Society on Monday afternoon. The Society is issuing this week to its members a book of more literary interest than any it has yet sent out—a very carefully compiled list by Mr. W. W. Greg of all known editions, printed before the end of the seventeenth century, of English plays written before the closing of the theatres in 1642. Mr. Macfarlane's monograph on Antoine Vêrard is announced as likely to be ready next month.

BRADFIELD COLLEGE, our readers may be aware, celebrates its first jubilee this year. There will be various doings at the college, of which due notice will be given; and a history of the school up to the present time is in course of preparation by Mr. A. F. Leach, of the Charity Commission, author of 'The History of Winchester' in Mr. Duckworth's series, which we reviewed not long ago. Mr. Leach will be assisted by various old Bradfield boys.

AFTER the usual votes had been passed at the annual general meeting of the Booksellers' Provident Institution, held on the 8th inst. at the Sunday School Union, under the chairmanship of Mr. C. J. Longman, the meeting resolved itself into an extraordinary general meeting to consider the new rates of subscription which had been recommended by a committee appointed to report upon the subject. The effect of the alterations is to make it possible for younger members of the trade to join on highly favourable terms, and the meeting showed its approval of them by unanimously voting for their adoption. When they have received the formal sanction of the Registrar of Friendly Societies we should earnestly advise all members of the trade, irrespective of age, to procure an amended copy of the rules from the secretary, Mr. Geo. Larnier, 48, Paternoster Row.

THE Teachers' Guild has organized holiday courses in modern languages at Elbeuf, Lisieux, and Tours. The courses are intended to promote a knowledge of the language, customs, and ways of thought of the French nation. They are open equally to members of the Guild and to other persons, without restriction of age. All instruction will be given in French, and students must have already some knowledge of the written language at least. Those who have no knowledge at all of the spoken language, or very little, are advised to choose the classes of M. Muteret at Elbeuf, of M. Leconte at Lisieux, and of M. Marjault at Tours. The other lecturers will speak as slowly as necessary, but will assume that their listeners are capable of understanding spoken French. The courses at Lisieux and Tours will probably commence on August 3rd, and the courses at Elbeuf a few days later.

THIS week's number of *Notes and Queries* begins a bibliography by Col. Prideaux of Edward FitzGerald's works, which is likely to appeal to a large circle.

THE sixth volume of the Haworth Edition of the 'Life and Works of the Sisters Brontë,' to be published on the 26th inst., is 'The Tenant of Wildfell Hall,' by Anne Brontë. The volume includes a portrait of Anne Brontë, a facsimile of the title-page of the first edition of the work, and six full-page illustrations. The preface to the second edition, in which Anne Brontë meets the charge brought against her by some critics of drawing some scenes in too realistic colours, is also reprinted for the first time in a collected edition of the works of the Brontë sisters. The seventh volume, completing the edition, will be Mrs. Gaskell's 'Memoir of Charlotte Brontë,' with biographical notes by Mr. Clement Shorter. This will be published in April.

THE April issue of *Longman's Magazine* will contain the first of a series of seven articles, by S. G. Tallentyre, on 'The Women of the Salons.' This will be devoted to Madame du Deffand. Succeeding articles will deal with Mlle. de Lespinasse, Madame Geoffrin, Madame d'Épinay, Madame Necker, Madame de Staël, and Madame Récamier. In the April number will also appear the first part of a new serial story, 'In the Name of a Woman,' by Mr. Arthur W. Marchmont, author of 'By Right of Sword' and 'A Dash for a Throne.'

THE Court of Governors of Owens College has been increased by the nomination of additional members under the Act of 1899 to which we drew attention some weeks ago. The Lord President has nominated the Earl of Crewe; other new members are Lord Derby and Sir John Hibbert.

THE stock of H. S. Nichols, Ltd., which Messrs. Sotheby will sell on April 2nd and 3rd, includes many choice books: there are no fewer than four copies of the first edition of Gray's 'Ode performed in the Senate-House at Cambridge, July 1, 1769,' all in the original wrappers; two editions of 'Celestina,' one printed at Barcelona, 1525, and the other at Lyons, 1529; a fine copy of 'Le Livre de Bonnes Meurs,' printed at Paris by Michael le Noir, without date; a first edition of Wordsworth's 'White Doe of Rylstone,' 1815; a fairly good copy of the Fourth Folio Shakespeare; and many other curious and interesting books, old and new.

WE are glad to hear that Mr. William Ellerby Green, of Messrs. Longman, has sufficiently recovered from his long and severe illness to be able to return to business. A barrel of oysters is sometimes a dangerous gift.

AN important paper on 'Tribal Hidage' will be read by Mr. W. J. Corbett before the Royal Historical Society on the 19th of next month. Mr. Corbett will attempt by means of a new and remarkable unit of hidage to show the probable distribution of the tribal population of this country in the seventh century. The paper will be illustrated by several maps.

MR. EDWIN P. GAY, an American scholar who has been for some time past pursuing

certain researches amongst the historical manuscripts of the Tudor period, will read a paper before the same Society in June on the subject of the Depopulation Inquisitions of 1517, reviewing the statistical conclusions arrived at by Mr. I. S. Leadam in his large work on the same subject.

IT is said to be the intention of the Governing Board of Trinity College, Dublin, not to fill up, for the present, the vacancy in the chair of ancient history caused by the resignation of Prof. Mahaffy.

PROF. MAHAFFY (if we may still so style him) has been invited to deliver a summer course of lectures at the University of Chicago. His acceptance is still uncertain.

THE War Office has made further levies on the universities, beyond all precedent, for subalterns in the army, amounting to as many as seventy-three at Oxford, a similar number from Cambridge, twenty-eight from Dublin, twenty from London University, and so forth. Commissions in the army were never more easily obtained than they are at the present crisis.

THE University and the Town Council of Aberdeen have now finally arranged the terms whereby the old Greyfriars Church is to be demolished to make room for an extension of the University buildings, whilst a new church will be built elsewhere at a cost of 10,000*l*.

GREAT progress has been made with the erection of Gordon College, Khartoum. Though it cannot be fully equipped and organized for some time to come, we understand that a beginning has been made with the enrolment and instruction of native students.

THE new Code of the Education Department, which was circulated on Wednesday, puts the finishing stroke to the abolition of the old system of payment by results. The all-round capitation grant now to be assigned to elementary schools, with little or no distinction, will apparently give a relative advantage to the rural schools and to the less efficient urban schools; and it seems probable that the Government Department, by passing to one extreme from the other, will be found to have taken away all effective stimulus from the teachers. Some of the strongest boards in the country, whose teachers, perhaps, need no stimulus, have been active in working for the change of system; but it may be doubted whether they sufficiently considered the consequences referred to above.

MR. A. MUDIE writes on the 10th inst.:—"The accusation of carelessness which you bring against me in this week's issue of the *Athenæum* is entirely uncalled for, and is calculated to do the business an injury. The number of the paper in which the advertisement appeared reached me on the day of my mother's death, and, although I saw the paper, I have an excuse for overlooking the advertisement with which most people would sympathize. You will, I trust, do something to remove the false impression your words produce. There is no paper which, under ordinary circumstances, I read with so much care as yours."

UNDER the title 'Hints on the Conduct of Business, Public and Private,' Messrs. Macmillan & Co. are about to publish a little volume by Sir Courtenay Boyle, K.C.B.,



Secretary to the Board of Trade. The subject is treated under such heads as 'Training'; 'The Opening, Closing, and Keeping of Letters'; 'Labour-saving Appliances'; 'Registry and Record of Official Papers'; 'Official Letters and Despatches'; 'Division of Responsibility'; 'Interviews'; 'Deputations,' &c., while a final chapter deals with 'Adroitness and Cunning.'

SIR W. B. RICHMOND is writing for the *North American Review* an article on his recollections of Bismarck.

MR. BASIL MARTINEAU writes:—

"As executor of my father, the late Rev. Dr. James Martineau, I shall be glad if any one who has received letters from him will kindly send them to my sister, Miss Martineau, 35, Gordon Square, London, W.C., as contributions for the use of his biographers, at their discretion. The letters shall be returned to the recipients."

We are told that the title of Miss Mary Johnston's story which we reviewed last week (pp. 302-3) was changed from 'To Have and to Hold' to 'By Order of the Company' because the former title had already been given to an English novel. The same unfortunate accident befell Miss Johnston's former novel, and it also had to be rechristened. Miss Johnston is a Virginian, but lives mainly in Alabama.

THE dreaded rush of books on the war is beginning. It was sure to come once Lady-smith was relieved and the besieged correspondents were let loose. Messrs. Macmillan are to publish 'Notes on the War,' with an account of the campaign down to the relief of Ladysmith, selected from the articles which have been contributed to the *Daily News* by a well-known military expert. The author has arranged them in two parts, one dealing with various technical points on which the lay reader needs instruction, and the other consisting of the narrative of the campaign.

THE death is announced of the celebrated Dominican orator Le Père Didon. He was born in 1840, not far from the Grande Chartreuse, and his fame commenced with his appearance in the pulpit of several Parisian churches. At one time he seemed likely to follow the example of Père Hyacinthe, and the boldness of his utterances led to his being banished to Corbara, in Corsica, for eighteen months. On his release he visited Germany, and wrote a noticeable book, 'Les Allemands,' which was much remarked. He next visited Palestine, and brought out in 1890 a 'Vie de Jésus,' in two volumes, which made a stir. Of late years he has, like Lacordaire, found the atmosphere of the Church too stifling with education, and tried especially to reform the methods of discipline and improve the recreations of his pupils. He was on his way to Rome when he died. Perhaps his liberality of mind had again given offence.

DR. ELOFF TEGNÉR, the University librarian of Lund in Sweden, where he died on February 25th, at the age of fifty-five, was a relation of the famous poet-bishop Esaias Tegnér, author of 'The Children of the Lord's Supper' and the 'Frithiof's Saga.' He proved himself a writer of some ability by his 'Life of General Count G. M. Armfeldt.'

THE city of Hamburg seems to be disposed to follow the example of London in federating its principal colleges and scientific institutions as a teaching university. A scheme for this purpose is now under consideration.

A LETTER from Belgrade in the *Allgemeine Zeitung* reports the death of the Archimandrite Nikifor Dučić, who enjoyed a high repute amongst the Servians as a patriot and a scholar. His historical and archaeological studies had earned him the esteem of scholars outside the boundaries of his own fatherland.

THE Parliamentary Papers of the week include, in addition to MSS. of the House of Lords, vol. i. New Series, MSS. of J. M. Heathcote, Esq., of Conington Castle (1s. 3d.); Annual Statistical Reports of the Universities of Glasgow and Aberdeen (1d. each); Code of Regulations for Day Schools, Scotland (6d.); Abstract of Accounts of the University of Aberdeen (2d.); and some further Reports on the Endowed Charities of various parishes.

## SCIENCE

*Our Rarer British Birds, their Nests, Eggs, and Summer Haunts.* By Richard Kearton. Illustrated from Photographs by C. Kearton. (Cassell & Co.)

ON opening this book we were at once struck by the fact that many of the species therein mentioned were by no means rare; but criticism on this point was disarmed by a statement in the preface that this work is supplementary to the author's 'British Birds' Nests,' published in 1895, and contains photographs of many nests which had not been satisfactorily figured at that time. For instance, the first bird on the list is the blackcap, which is common enough in summer, but, owing to the places in which it builds its nest, some time necessarily elapsed before circumstances permitted the production of the beautiful illustration now given. The book is not large, and contains few more than 160 pages, but it represents a great extent of travel and a still larger amount of thoroughly honest work, of which the authors were their own, and most exacting, critics. All the plates are so good in their way that it is difficult to select any for special commendation; but interest naturally attaches to those which represent the breeding-places of birds now really rare in this country, such as the kite, the osprey, and the three harriers; or the chough, rock-dove, and some of the petrels, whose haunts seldom afford places of vantage for the camera. Mr. R. Kearton's remarks upon the nesting habits of the birds described are most interesting, and there is no nonsense about "vanishing species," with vicarious attacks upon people who are comparatively guiltless of aiding in the work of extermination. It is a common thing for "popular" writers to bewail the destruction of the golden eagle, whereas that species, as Mr. Kearton properly says, is really in no danger at the present day, owing to its protection in the deer-forests of Scotland for services rendered in keeping down the mountain-hares. On the other hand, the osprey would be extinct as a

breeder in Scotland unless it were carefully looked after at its few remaining nesting-places, one of which is the subject of the frontispiece to this book; for its richly marked eggs are coveted by the collector of "British" specimens, and every year attempts are deliberately made to suborn the gamekeepers and gillies in whom the landowners are obliged to put their trust. In even greater danger is the kite, an indigenous species, once so plentiful in England that it played the part of scavenger in the streets of London (*temp.* Henry VIII.), and would snatch food from the hands of children, as William Turner testified in 1543. It is not migratory to any appreciable extent, and casual visitors from the Continent would have to run the gauntlet of our eastern and southern game-preserving counties before they could reach the valleys beyond the Severn where a small remnant survive. Two of Mr. C. Kearton's photographs represent the last refuges of this handsome species; but here, again, the collector is at work with his bribes, and subscriptions obtained by the Messrs. Kearton a year or two ago to defray the expenses of protection came too late, for the eggs had been stolen:—

"On that occasion we found the farmers in the neighbourhood very wroth about the robbery—not, alas! because they loved the birds, but because they had discovered the monetary value of kites' eggs, and felt they had been done out of something!"

When certain species disappear before the march of civilization—especially in the form of drainage followed by cultivation—there is, of course, nothing to be said for the dispossessed; but Mr. R. Kearton gives a remarkable instance of the manner in which a species may be indirectly affected. The short-eared owl rears its young in a little hollow among the herbage on the Norfolk Broads, but

"quite recently the coarse grass, rush, or other herbage growing round the Broads has acquired such value as fodder for the London market that in some places every available blade is gathered in; and it is really no exaggeration to say that some of the 'bus-horses now trotting up and down the Strand now breakfast off water-hens' old nests, for they are all raked up and forwarded with the rest of the stuff, which, I understand, is greatly relished by the animals to which it is given. The short-eared owl's nest figured in our illustration had been discovered by the mowers of this coarse fodder, and although they considerably left the bird a patch of rushes and grass round her nest, she deserted it."

It is inevitable that predacious birds should have their numbers thinned by preservers of game, especially of that helpless and artificially reared exotic, the pheasant; but, as Mr. Kearton very justly observes, the majority of true sportsmen are good field naturalists; and even if the keeper shows too much zeal, it should be remembered that birds of prey do not live exclusively on "game," and that—in more ways than one—thousands and thousands of our sweetest songsters, with their eggs and young, are saved every year by the man in velvet. Of the wild-bird protection laws Mr. Kearton says that they are very like a beautiful padlock and chain hanging useless on a widely open door which it is nobody's business to lock; and in this, as

well as with his remarks on private efforts and the desirability of protection of areas, we heartily concur. Instead of framing schedules of species which, for various reasons, do not need protection, many of our legislators would be better employed in instilling some of the first principles of humanity into the urchins of our counties, and especially of our suburbs, who "cannot tolerate the sight of anything so beautiful as a bird's nest." To judge from their proclivities for doing helpless nestlings to death, and for barring up with stones the birds which breed in hollow trees, "our boys" of the present time seem to be quite as wantonly cruel as were their predecessors of forty years ago, before the civilizing influences of Board Schools showed signs of progress, although indications of education productive of "smartness," now termed "slimness," will be found by the reader of this very interesting and common-sense book.

#### SOCIETIES.

**ROYAL.**—March 8.—Lord Lister, President, in the chair.—The Bakerian Lecture, on 'The Specific Heat of Metals and the Relation of Specific Heat to Atomic Weight,' was delivered by Prof. W. A. Tilden.

**GEOLOGICAL.**—Feb. 16.—*Annual Meeting.*—Mr. W. Whitaker, President, in the chair.—The Secretary read the Reports of the Council and of the Library and Museum Committee for the year 1899. In the former the Council referred to the continued increase in the number of Fellows and the steadily maintained financial prosperity of the Society. The Report of the Library and Museum Committee enumerated the increasingly extensive additions made to the Society's library, and announced the completion by Mr. C. Davies Sherborn of the work of labelling and registering the type and other important specimens in the museum.—The Reports having been adopted, the President handed the Wollaston Medal, awarded to Prof. G. K. Gilbert, of Washington, to Mr. H. White, Secretary of the American Embassy.—The President then handed the Murchison Medal, awarded to Baron Nordenfalk, of Stockholm, to his Excellency Count Carl Lewenhaupt, Minister for Sweden and Norway.—The President then presented the Lyell Medal to Mr. J. E. Marr; the balance of the proceeds of the Wollaston Donation Fund to Mr. G. Thurland Prior; the balance of the proceeds of the Murchison Geological Fund, awarded to Mr. A. Vaughan Jennings, to Prof. J. W. Judd; the balance of the proceeds of the Lyell Geological Fund, awarded to Miss Gertrude L. Elles, of Newnham College, to Prof. T. McKenny Hughes; a moiety of the proceeds of the Barlow-Jameson Fund to Mr. G. C. Crick; and the other moiety of the proceeds of the Barlow-Jameson Fund to Prof. T. T. Groom. The President then proceeded to read his anniversary address, giving obituary notices of several Foreign Members, Foreign Correspondents, and Fellows deceased since the last annual meeting.—The ballot for the Council and officers was taken, and the following were elected: *President*, J. J. H. Teall; *Vice-Presidents*, Prof. J. W. Judd, H. W. Monckton, Prof. H. G. Seeley, and Prof. W. J. Sollas; *Secretaries*, R. S. Herries and Prof. W. W. Watts; *Foreign Secretary*, Sir J. Evans; *Treasurer*, W. T. Blanford; *Council*, W. T. Blanford, Prof. T. G. Bonney, Sir J. Evans, E. J. Garwood, A. Harker, F. W. Harmer, R. S. Herries, Rev. E. Hill, W. Hill, Prof. J. W. Judd, Lieut.-General C. A. McMahon, H. W. Monckton, E. T. Newton, G. T. Prior, F. W. Rudler, Prof. H. G. Seeley, Prof. W. J. Sollas, J. J. H. Teall, Prof. W. W. Watts, W. Whitaker, Rev. H. H. Winwood, A. S. Woodward, and H. B. Woodward.

Feb. 21.—Mr. J. J. H. Teall, President, in the chair.—The Rev. E. C. Spicer was elected a Fellow.—The following communications were read: 'The Bunter Pebble-Beds of the Midlands and the Source of their Materials,' by Prof. T. G. Bonney, and 'Further Evidence of the Skeleton of *Eurycarpus oweni*,' by Prof. H. G. Seeley.

**BRITISH ARCHÆOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION.**—March 7.—Dr. W. de Gray Birch, V.P., in the chair. The hon. secretary, Mr. Patrick, directed the attention of the meeting to a letter which had appeared in the *Westminster Gazette* respecting the castle of Launceston, said to be in danger of falling.—The

meeting expressed the hope that steps would be taken without delay (either by the authorities of the Duchy of Cornwall, or by Lord Halsbury as Constable) to preserve this historical building from destruction.—Mr. I. C. Gould exhibited a parchment dated 1604, which contained a curious clause with respect to the marriage of young men in relation to loans of money.—The Rev. H. J. D. Astley, hon. editorial secretary, read a paper entitled 'Two Norfolk Villages,' being those of East and West Rudham, situated on the main road between Lynn and Fakenham. Rudham lies in the heart of an Anglian locality surrounded by places having names that tell of Anglian settlement, such as Hillington, Masingham, Dersingham, Sandringham, &c. Of Rudham in prehistoric days there is unmistakable evidence in the numerous celts of neolithic workmanship which have been found from time to time in gravel pits within the limits of the two parishes. A remarkably fine one, found at East Rudham, having beautiful polish and finish, was laid upon the table for exhibition. At the time of the Norman survey, Rudham, not yet divided into East and West, belonged to William, Earl Warrenne. Churches existed at Rudham in Saxon and Norman times, but no vestige of either now remains. Coxford or Cokesford Priory is situated within the parish of East Rudham, and the two churches of East and West Rudham are mentioned in the charter of foundation as included in the possessions of the priory, which was a house of Augustinian canons. Much of the present church of St. Mary, East Rudham, is modern, as some twenty-five years ago the greater portion of the western tower fell, destroying the nave; but there are several exceedingly interesting features still remaining in the church, including a beautiful pillar piscina, with an aumbry over it, in the thickness of the wall. In the south transept are a low side window and a piscina with open arch. The south porch has a fine groined roof, with Tudor roses at the intersections, and a central boss upon which is represented the Holy Trinity. The Father is shown seated, supporting between His knees the Son upon the cross, the arms of which are upheld by the hands of the Father. The representation of the Holy Spirit upon the head of the Father in the shape of a dove, although very much worn away, is still discernible. When the church was restored after the fall of the tower in 1876 a discovery of an interesting nature was made in the north wall of the sacristy at the level of the floor. This consisted of numerous fragments, mostly greatly defaced, of carved figures and other subjects in alabaster. They had subsequently been hidden away, and were only brought to light again by Mr. Astley in 1896. He, with the help of Mr. Patrick, pieced them together, and found that they mainly constituted the remains of what must at one time have been a very beautiful reredos of fifteenth-century date, together with some other portions of what may have been an altar frontal. Remains of colour and gilding still exist upon some of the pieces. The paper was illustrated by photographs and sketches and some of the tiles from Coxford Priory.—Mr. Patrick exhibited and explained the drawings he had made of the remains of the reredos and other features of the church. In the church of West Rudham are some good corbels representing Henry VIII., Jane Seymour, and Edward VI., also some fine sixteenth-century bench-ends with elaborate poppy heads, all dissimilar. There are some ancient thirteenth-century stone coffin lids by the south door, and a curious seventeenth-century alms-box with three remarkable padlocks. On the western face of the easternmost pillar of the nave arcade in this church, close up to the necking of the capital, is an elegantly shaped aperture, 7 in. in length and 4 in. wide, with trefoil head, which was probably the receptacle of a heart burial. The register of West Rudham is dated 1565.

**ARCHÆOLOGICAL INSTITUTE.**—March 7.—The Rev. Sir Talbot H. B. Baker in the chair.—Mr. C. E. Keyser contributed a paper on the mural paintings which had recently been discovered or brought to his notice in the south of England since his last paper on the subject in June, 1896. Among the more interesting examples referred to were those at Kingston, Cambridgeshire; Stowell and Bishops Cleeve, Gloucestershire; Ford, Sussex; Ashmansworth, Hampshire; and Poundstock and Poughill, Cornwall. No new subjects had been noted, nor had the discoveries, as a rule, been of great importance.—Dr. H. A. Lediard read a paper on samplers. The absence of any literature dealing with the origin of the sampler rendered it difficult to date the time at which the work was first undertaken; but the earliest poetic reference came from the Laureate Skelton. In the first instance the sampler was worked and kept for the sake of the designs, which were introduced from religious establishments abroad. The early long sampler consisted of embroidery and lace work, and was

done by the nobility and the leisured classes. The degeneration of the sampler was due to the work becoming a school task, as well as other reasons, and the decadence of the patterns is marked. The alphabet was seen on the early samplers in a subordinate position; it then absorbed the chief position in some seventeenth-century work, and finally drifted into a secondary place. The cut work was soon lost, and its place was taken by specimens from the zoological and botanical kingdoms. The materials used for sampler work were touched on, and allusion made to the various paths followed by children working samplers—family registers, creeds, needle-work pictures, verses, and texts all being found in cross-stitch as well as other forms of stitching. The border of the sampler was introduced when the idea came to make the work into a picture for framing, as the old samplers had no border of any kind. Among the numerous samplers exhibited by Dr. Lediard some had been kindly lent by Mrs. Head and Miss Gully, and a few of the lantern-slides were taken from samplers in South Kensington Museum and from the Rawlinson Collection in the Bodleian, Oxford.—Messrs. Green and Rice took part in the discussion.

**LINNEAN.**—March 1.—Dr. A. Günther, President, in the chair.—Mr. W. Saville Kent exhibited lantern-slides of several British flowering plants to show the remarkable advances which have been recently made in colour photography.—Mr. C. B. Clarke read a paper on 'Botanic Nomenclature.' He showed that the new rule adopted at Berlin—not to disturb names that had fifty years' user on the ground of priority alone—resulted in a practical uniformity with the system of naming adopted by Mr. Benthams and Sir J. D. Hooker. The Old World, he said, had thus reached a fair general agreement in nomenclature. The American botanists follow a new system, which aims at finality on so-called "non-shifting basis," in which the genus or species, as the case may be, is established on a type-specimen. Mr. Clarke's paper was devoted mainly to showing by selected instances that this system did not ensure finality; that the errors in determining what should be ranked as the type are enough to discredit the system; and the author commented on the disputed question whether a plant should be given the oldest specific name bestowed upon it or the oldest specific name it bears in the genus in which it is now placed.—A discussion followed, in which Messrs. Daydon Jackson, H. J. Elwes, A. W. Bennett, A. B. Rendle, E. M. Holmes, and H. Groves, and the President took part.—Mr. F. Chapman read a paper on some Foraminifera of Tithonian age from the limestone of Nesseldorf. The paper was illustrated by lantern-slides.

**ZOOLOGICAL.**—March 6.—Mr. W. T. Blanford, V.P., in the chair.—The Secretary read a report on the additions to the menagerie during February, and called special attention to two Telihi monkeys (*Macacus telihiensis*), presented by Dr. S. W. Bushell.—A report by Mr. A. Thomson, the assistant superintendent of the gardens, on the lepidopterous insects exhibited in the Insect House during the year 1899 was read, and a series of the specimens described was laid upon the table.—Mr. G. A. Boulenger described eight new species of reptiles and batrachians from Borneo, forwarded by the Curator of the Sarawak Museum. One of them formed the type of a new genus proposed to be named *Lepturophris*.—Mr. F. E. Beddard read a description of the brain of the siamang (*Hylobates syndactylus*), based upon a specimen taken from an animal which had recently died in the Society's gardens. The form of the brain did not appear to differ materially from that of other species of *Hylobates*.—A communication from Miss E. M. Bowdler Sharpe contained a list of 29 species of butterflies of which specimens had been collected by Mr. J. L. Bonhote in the Bahama Islands in 1898. Of these one species, viz., *Papilio bonhotei*, was described as new.—A communication was read from Mr. J. L. Bonhote, containing an account of the mammals collected by Mr. T. H. Lyle in Siam. The collection comprised specimens of 20 species, one of which, viz., *Petaurista lylei*, was described as new, and the others were enumerated in the paper. A large series of specimens of a squirrel, *Sciurus finlaysoni*, was contained in the collection, and from an examination of them the author was able to corroborate Mr. Thomas's remarks (*P. Z. S.*, 1898, p. 245) that, so far as our present knowledge is concerned, the variations met with in this species follow, apparently, none of the ordinary laws which are usually supposed to govern such cases.—Mr. G. E. H. Barrett-Hamilton contributed a paper on a small collection of mammals brought home by Capt. H. H. P. Deasy from Central Asia. The most interesting specimens were three examples of the rare *Enchoreutes naso*, a novelty to the collection in the British Museum, and specimens of new species of vole and jerboa. The vole, for which the name *Microtus lama* was



THE issue of a new edition of the 'Libro dell' Arte' by Cennino Cennini indicates the increasing appreciation of that singularly convincing work. It was first

printed in 1821, the text being that of the Vatican Codex, which, according to Tambroni, the editor, is a last-century copy of a fifteenth-century MS. The second Italian edition was published by Le Monnier in 1859; this was edited by Gaetano and Carlo Milanese from two codices in the Laurenziana and Riccardiana libraries, the former codex bearing the date 1437. Translations in English and French have been made from the Tambroni text by Mrs. Merrifield and M. Mottez, a French painter; the Milanese edition has been translated into German by Ilg. The known copies of the 'Trattato' in MS. are, we believe, confined to the three above mentioned; possibly a careful search in old libraries might discover others. The scarcity of the MSS. may be accounted for by the fact that it was a book solely intended for the use of painters. It was for a period their *cademecum*, and would probably have been found in all the fifteenth-century workshops. Consequently the book must have received the rough usage of a work of reference in constant request among apprentices and assistants. When, towards the end of the century, its methods were no longer those practised by the painters most in vogue, it would naturally be cast aside, few caring to preserve a copy of a manual that was out of date, and certainly none suspecting that a time would arrive when its *tre cento* processes would be revived, and when even the style and diction of the 'Trattato' would be the subject of critical investigation among scholars.

From at least one point of view Cennini's book possesses considerable literary merit: it is remarkable for its directness of exposition. This quality is, perhaps, only what might be expected from the pen of an Italian living in the century wherein Dante wrote and Giotto painted. The author, moreover, was heir to the traditions of the great founder of the Florentine School, he having worked thirteen years with Agnolo Gaddi, whose father, Taddeo Gaddi, was the godson and most gifted pupil of Giotto. Hence Cennini wrote his 'Trattato' with that full knowledge which is one of the chief elements of literary success. He also shows a trained capacity for methodical arrangement, and a command of simple, unambiguous language which renders the book exceedingly attractive, even for those who have no intention of attempting to reduce to practice the various technical processes so lucidly explained. The reader finds himself pleasantly initiated into all the operations of the fourteenth-century painting-rooms; he, as it were, watches the pictures grow under the hands of the busy workmen. All the mysteries of the "bottega" are revealed to him. He sees the colour-grinders at their slabs, the gilders enriching the raised ornamentation, the size and varnish being prepared at the stove, and the master giving the final touches to the panels, here adding force to the draperies, or there imparting a more refined expression to the heads. Then, again, the scene changes from the workshop to the church or the cloister. The wall is prepared for the coming fresco. Step by step we follow the work from the first traced outlines in charcoal to the completion of the composition by the retouching *in secco*. But besides the interest attaching

to the description of the many delicate and ingenious inventions by which the old painters brought their altar-pieces and frescoes to an enviable perfection, or the amusement to be derived from the glimpses of quaint contemporary manners referred to by the author, his book has an additional and a higher value: it furnishes an insight into the spirit and intentions of the artists such as can only be derived from an acquaintance with their technical procedure. The Arena Chapel at Padua will be regarded with far different eyes by the student who is familiar with the 'Libro dell'Arte' and by him to whom its pages are unknown.

There will naturally be divergent opinions respecting the practical utility of the treatise for the painters of the present day. Cennini, in his second chapter, remarks that some follow the arts from "animo gentile," and others for "guadagno." For the latter class the work can now be of little value. Its methods are not those by which popular exhibition work is ordinarily produced. The effects sought after by the successful painters of the nineteenth century are so unlike those of the fourteenth-century Italian artists that, from a professional point of view, the time spent in acquiring a mastery of the earlier practice would be merely labour wasted. But for those who pursue art from "nobleness of mind" the book may contain much which is still serviceable. Cennini omits no opportunity for insisting on the careful preparation of all the materials used by the painter. To that end he recommends that they should, as much as possible, be made in the workshop, giving at the same time minute directions for performing all the operations relating thereto, even the least important, such, for instance, as the burning of twigs for charcoal drawing. Advice and instruction of this nature are as pertinent now as in the old days. The fugitive nature of pigments and the deleterious composition of vehicles are by-words among painters. Hence the special value of a treatise giving the experience of men who certainly turned out sound work. We may admire or hold in small esteem the style and sentiment of the early frescoes and tempera panels, but as to the durability of those paintings there can be no two opinions. There are some—those which have escaped repainting or accident—that remain now, after an interval of four or five centuries, almost as fresh as they appeared on the day they left the painters' hands.

Of the pictorial methods described in the book, painting in tempera is the one which will probably be the most interesting to the artist of the present time. Its practitioners now are confessedly few. Yet it is quite likely they may be more numerous when the technique is better understood, and when its superiority over oil painting in certain respects is more generally known, and also, it must be said, when its inferiority in others has been remedied. One of the chief defects of the process is that the picture does not dry sufficiently hard to resist the action of water; consequently it cannot be sponged, which in an atmosphere like that of our great cities is a disadvantage. It is true that the objection no longer holds when the painting is varnished, but this is an operation which ought to be postponed as

long as possible; perhaps four or five years should elapse before the varnish is applied. There exist also difficulties in the manipulation of the vehicle relatively to oil which may or may not be capable of removal. Altogether, the question is one of considerable interest to the student of painting, but it is one yet awaiting practical solution.

If this is a fair statement of the case—which the convinced advocates of tempera painting will perhaps scarcely admit—the present work cannot fail to be a useful contribution towards its discussion. Mrs. Herringham appears to have a practical acquaintance with the method, and is therefore specially qualified to edit a fresh translation of Cennini. Her version is based on Mrs. Merrifield's work, but corrects errors, which were excusable in a first translation. She has added a rather lengthy dissertation, under various headings, on mediæval art methods, which, we think, might more judiciously have been published in a separate volume, and at the same time it might with advantage have been rewritten, for she admits the notes to be "scrappy." They certainly read like hurriedly written jottings from note-books. The volume is nicely printed, and on paper which it is pleasant to read from. In these particulars it favourably contrasts with the Le Monnier edition, and suggests the wish that an English publisher should reprint the Italian text of the 'Libro dell'Arte,' omitting the inordinately prolix "prefazione" of the native editors, and prefixing to it only a page or two, which should be purely bibliographical.

MR. SPIELMANN has published a memoir of John Ruskin (Cassell & Co.) which is well adapted to popular reading.

MR. GEORGE ALLEN sends us three volumes of Mr. Ruskin's essays *On the Old Road*, a collection originally brought out by Mr. Collingwood some fifteen years ago, and containing much that was of interest and still preserves it.

#### NOTES FROM ROME.

BETWEEN the central hall of the Basilica Emilia, described in my last notes, and the portico which forms the front towards the Forum there is—or there was—a row of rooms or cells 5·41 metres wide, 7·15 metres deep, the partition walls of which are built of great blocks of tufa. Their pavements are inlaid with white and polychrome marbles in graceful and sober design, with restorations here and there of a later age. These rooms were identified soon after their discovery as the *Tabernæ Novæ* of the Republican Forum—unnecessarily, I believe. The rooms form part of the essential plan and frame of the basilica, like those of the Basilica Julia on the other side of the Forum. Both correspond in width to the arcades of the portico on which they open; in other words, there are as many rooms as there are arcades in either basilica. Buildings of this kind must have had plenty of meeting and sitting rooms for judges, jurors, and lawyers, of waiting-rooms for witnesses, of Chancery and Record offices, &c. It may be possible also that some of the apartments were let to bankers and money-lenders. Well known are the "nummularii Basilicæ Julię," like the T. Flavius Genethlius, a Thracian by birth, who took to banking after having been a rider in the circus, or the L. Marcus Fortunatus who married Marcia Zoe when only sixteen years of age.\*

\* Corpus Inscr., vol. vi. Nos. 9709, 9711, &c.



If this sort of people showed partiality for the Basilica Julia, it is easy to conceive what a competition there must have been about finding rooms in the Basilica Æmilia, which stood right in the Via ad Janum, the Wall Street of classic Rome.

The side of the basilica facing the Forum appears to have been destroyed to the level of the foundations towards the end of the fourth century, and a clumsy colonnade substituted showing an absolute decadence in style and taste. This substitution is a unique event in the history of the Forum, where there are instances of "transformations" of single edifices, but we had never yet found one pulled to pieces to make room for a clumsy and ungraceful structure, made up of materials stolen at random, we know not where. This later colonnade falls on the same line with the Æmilian portico; however, as the intercolumniation is narrower than the opening of the arcades of the portico itself (3.77 mètres for the first, 5.31 for the second), some of the columns fall right into the opening, others stand on the foundations of the pilasters. Twenty columns, or parts of columns, have already been found, of which four were *in situ* at the two extreme ends of the basilica.

This singular destruction of one of the noblest buildings of the Forum, at a period in which the Forum itself was still the centre of Roman life, has been connected with the rebuilding of St. Paul's outside the walls, which Valentinian II. and Theodosius undertook in A.D. 386. And the reason is this. The finest things in the Basilica Æmilia, according to Pliny, were certain marvellous columns of Phrygian marble or *pavonazetto*, those, very likely, which divided the nave from the aisles. Now every one knows that out of the forty columns which divided the nave of St. Paul's from the aisles, before the memorable fire of July 15th, 1823, twenty-four were of *pavonazetto*, measuring 10.25 mètres in height, 1.19 mètres in diameter. Their cut, their finish, the perfection of their flutings, the exquisite beauty of their capitals, betrayed their classic origin even to the most inexperienced eye. Ancient Christians were rather fond of dedicating pagan edifices or ruins or spoils to saints whose name sounded more or less like that of the old titular god. A temple of Jupiter would be placed under the invocation of S. Jovinus, a temple of Mars under that of S. Martinus, a temple of Saturn under that of S. Saturninus, and so forth. When a hall of the Senate-house in Rome, believed to stand in the Forum Martis (*Mar-foris*), was dedicated to Santa Martina, the following inscription was engraved on the architrave of the door:—

MARTYRII GESTANS VIRGO MARTINA CORONAM  
ELECTO HINC MARTIS NYMINE TEMPLA TENES.

No wonder, then, that the noble materials of the Basilica Paulli (Æmilia) in the Forum, damaged, and probably made useless by the fire of Carinus, should have been used in the Basilica Paulli Apostoli, as the church was officially named by its constructors. The thing is probable, but by no means certain.

The Porticus Æmilia, and its later representative the colonnade, must have contained a precious collection of works of art, judging from the number of pedestals found along their line, partly within the basilica, partly on the pavement of the street (*ad Janum*). All these pedestals date from the second half of the fourth century, when, in consequence of the progressive closing of temples to public worship, the prefects of the city removed from their altars the beautiful statues of the gods, and set them up again, as mere works of art, in public places, like law-courts, fora, baths, theatres, and main thoroughfares. One of the most active agents in such removals of statues was Gabinus Vettius Probianus, prefect A.D. 377. His pedestals found in or near the Basilica Æmilia are inscribed with the formula, "Statuum conlocari præcepit

quæ ornameto basilicæ esse posset inlustri." The greatest number, however, belong to Petronius Maximus, whose *cursus honorum* has so neatly been reconstructed and described by Prof. Cantarelli in 'Bull. Arch. Com.,' 1888, pp. 47-60. Twice he was prefect of the city, in 419-421 for the first time, in or about 430 for the second. Five times his name has appeared on the newly discovered pedestals. I never saw, however, a more shabby and pitiful exhibition of marbles; they have all been used before, once, twice, thrice, for various purposes, and while they all bear on one face the formula PETRONIUS MAXIMVS V[ir] C[larissimus] PRÆF[ectus] \*VRB[is] CVRAVIT, they contain all kinds of independent records on the other face. Pedestal No. III., for instance, had already been set up for other purposes in A.D. 242, as shown by the consular date, "[C]aio Vettio Grato Attico Sabiniano [et] C. Asinio Lepido Prætextato co[n]s[ulibus]," in which the cognomen Lepidus of the second eponym appears for the first time. Pedestal No. IV. had likewise supported a statue of the Emperor Flavius Valens, dedicated to him by Placidus Severus, a vice-prefect of the Prætorium.

Petronius Maximus, proclaimed emperor on March 17th, 455, and murdered by his own officers while attempting to run away from the city, threatened by the Vandals of Genserich, was a great builder or restorer of buildings. His name has been read on the marbles of the theatre of Marcellus, of Livia's market on the Esquiline, and he is styled "huius fori conditor" in an architrave found near the Baths of Trajan.

The most interesting epigraphic discovery made within the limits of the basilica is that of a fragment of the Fasti Consulares, which, before its mutilation, contained the list of the *tribuni militum (consulari potestate)* from *ann. urb.* 374 to 378, and the list of consuls from *ann. urb.* 422 to 433. The block of marble, which measured originally 1.88 mètres in width, 0.25 metre in thickness (height unknown), was wrenched from the walls of the Regia about the time of Charlemagne, and turned into a threshold at the entrance-door of a public office lodged among the ruins of the basilica. The chisel of the stonemason and the rubbing of feet have destroyed about four-fifths of this invaluable document, leaving us only the names of the Tribuni for the year 374, and of the Consuls for the years 422-424. To value rightly the importance of these records we must remember that the mention of the Tribuni Militum for 374 is to be found only in Diodorus, xv. 50, and Livy, vi. 27, both being incorrect as regards the number and the names of those officers. Diodorus mentions only seven, Livy six; the newly found Fasti nine, with names and genealogy in full, ending with the record that towards the end of the same year, on the approach of the Prænestinian army to the walls of the city, T. Quintius Cincinnatus Capitolinus was elected "dictator rei gerundæ causâ," and that he chose as the head of his staff Aulus Sempronius Atratinus.

The column of consular names begins with that of Spurius Postumius Albinus, "qui postea Caudinus appellatus est," who performed the twenty-fourth lustrum in 422, and ends with that of Lucius Plautius Venno, consul with Lucius Papirius in 424. Record is made between them of the dictatorship of Cnæus Quintius Capitolinus, "clavi figendi causa." This very old custom of driving a nail on September 13th on the right side of the cella of Jupiter Opt. Max. on the Capitol originated from the Etruscans, who used to keep count of the years in this simple way. In process of time, however, the ceremony was performed only in extraordinary circumstances—to avert the spreading of the plague, to expiate a great crime, to call back to obedience the excited

plebs, and the like. The occasion "clavi figendi" in 423 was found in a sudden and terrible influx of mortality among the patrician families. Doubts were entertained at first whether the mortality was due to natural causes or to a wholesale poisoning conspiracy. The theory of poisoning prevailed, of course, and 170 matrons of the highest aristocracy were sentenced to death.

Many and interesting publications connected with the topography (and history) of Rome have come out in these last days. Two deserve special attention: 'St. Peter in Rome, and his Tomb on the Vatican Hill,' by the Rev. Arthur Stapylton Barnes, M.A. (Sonnenschein), and 'Frontinus and the Water Supply of the City of Rome,' by Clemens Herschel (Boston, U.S., Dana & Co.). Both are cleverly and soberly written, and both lavishly illustrated. I have noticed in Dr. Barnes's volume the reproduction of Benedetto Drei's celebrated plan of the crypt of St. Peter's, dated 1618, from a unique copy in the British Museum, entirely covered with precious notes and indications, all in the author's own hand, and signed by him. In the text there is hardly a statement not based on facts, and not corroborated by monumental evidence.

RODOLFO LANCIANI.

#### SALES.

MESSRS. CHRISTIE, MANSON & WOODS sold on the 8th inst. the following engravings: J. M. W. Turner, *Liber Studiorum*, four portfolios, 162l. F. Short, *Mezzotints* completing the *Liber Studiorum*, two cases, 30l. Louisa, after G. Morland, by T. Gauguin, a pair, 27l. Children feeding Poultry, after Russell, and Feeding Goats, after Morland, by P. W. Tomkins, a pair, 34l.

The same firm sold on the 10th inst. the following drawings: A. W. Hunt, *Harlech Castle*, 52l. W. Holman Hunt, *Asparagus Island*, 136l. Sir J. E. Millais, *The Vale of Rest* (Indian ink), 110l.; *The Pearl of Great Price* (pen-and-ink and colour), 53l. D. G. Rossetti, *The Lady of Pity*, 483l.; *St. George*, 504l.; *Carlisle Tower*, 168l.; *Study of a Head* (Mrs. Morris), 52l. J. M. W. Turner, *Fall of the Reichenbach*, 60l. A. Fraser's picture *A Meal Mill in Athole* fetched 126l.

#### Fine-Art Gossip.

MESSRS. H. GRAVES & Co. have on view to-day (Saturday) drawings of figure-subjects by Mr. P. H. Miller, and other drawings of flower-subjects by Mrs. S. Miller. The same firm exhibit a picture by Mr. R. C. Woodville, representing the 'Charge of the C Squadron, 5th Lancers, Battle of Elands-laagte.' The public will be admitted to see all these works on Monday next.—The same dates apply to the Spring Exhibition at the Goupil Gallery, as well as to the collection of samplers and old English embroidery at the rooms of the Fine-Art Society.

MR. HOOK, who is in excellent health, proposes to send to the forthcoming exhibition of the Royal Academy three coast subjects and one river scene. Of the former the most impressive, called 'Welsh Goats,' is notable for broad, sober, and tender colour, and its sentiment is unusually touching. It is a view from the west coast of the Principality. The spectator looks from a lofty cliff of dark slate across a vast expanse of sea, as well as over the meadows and a cornfield which crowns the cliff; some rocky points and an islet are introduced partly bleached by centuries of sunlight, and dashed with streaks of sparkly white quartz, golden weeds, and bright verdure. The incoming tide is painted as only the artist paints it, and the colour of windless atmosphere is sobered by a very delicate veil of vapour. In the foreground a boy watches some browsing goats. 'Once Bit, Twice Shy,' is called so because of

\* OR ITERVM PRÆFECTVS.

a little boy who, having ventured his fingers too near a "pot" full of lobsters left upon the sandy shore, has reasons for not repeating the risk. His father, the owner of the pot, is wading in the sea, and examining a second trap of the same kind which he has lifted out of the water; a girl, standing upon some neighbouring rocks, waits for the captures he has made. The charm of this brilliant piece is in the colour and modelling of an almost level sea, as well as in the brightness of the clouds, whose edges are fringed with light. The third seapiece, which is called 'A New Coat for an Old Friend,' we partly described about this time last year, for the painter did not succeed in finishing it in time for the exhibition. It represents a rough pier, part of a fisherman's harbour, a foreground beach of slatey shingle, and a boat or two hauled up from the sea. A man on one of the boats bestows upon her a new coat of tar; a boy, kneeling upon the beach, blows with his breath the fire beneath the tar-kettle; in front a lounge watches the comrade who is at work. The distance is the best element of the picture. The entire scene is a careful study of the effect of the warm light of a reposeful afternoon early in autumn. The fourth picture, the title of which is not yet settled, depicts a Surrey stream and its wooded banks. Near the front a gamekeeper in a brown dress leans against the stump of a tree and waits for a ferry-boat which a girl is pulling; he carries over his shoulder a dead heron, whose dark grey plumage and red beak tell powerfully as elements of the coloration. Beyond him lies a sandy bank, taking the light that distinguishes the distant green meadows and the sparse foliage surrounding them. This painting is brightly, clearly, and firmly painted, so much so, indeed, that it contrasts strongly with 'Welsh Goats.'

THERE were not fewer than seventy candidates for the recent vacancies in the Association of the Society of Painters in Water Colours. There was but one election.

THE receiving day for pictures intended for the forthcoming exhibition of the New English Art Club at the Dudley Gallery is fixed for Monday, April 2nd. It will be necessary for non-members of the club to procure the written invitation of two members, to submit not more than two works to the jury.

## MUSIC

### THE WEEK.

QUEEN'S HALL.—Philharmonic Concert.  
ST. JAMES'S HALL.—Herr Rosenthal's Pianoforte Recital.  
CRYSTAL PALACE.—Saturday Concerts.

THE first Philharmonic Concert of the eighty-eighth season took place on Thursday in last week at the Queen's Hall. The return of Mr. F. H. Cowen to the conductor's desk, after an interval of several years, was an event of considerable interest, and, we may add, of importance. The Philharmonic have long been in search of a good conductor, and they have such a one in Mr. Cowen, only he must have full power and authority over his band. He resigned formerly because he could not have all the rehearsals which he deemed necessary. That question has no doubt been discussed between him and the directors. But there is another difficulty which he will have to face. His orchestra is not composed of members of whom all are anxious and eager to do the best for the music which they have to interpret, and also to do the utmost to carry out the conductor's wishes and intentions. We felt this partly from the playing at this first concert, partly from the exaggerated

efforts which Mr. Cowen had at times to make in order to attract the attention of some of the performers, and, if possible, draw their eyes from the music to his *baton*. The best results can only be obtained when there is direct communication between a master and the men under him. We will not judge definitely from this opening concert; we will only say that many things, particularly in the Beethoven Concerto, were excellent, and that if Mr. Cowen has only a fair chance, we believe that he will accomplish great things for the Society and for himself. The programme opened with an Overture Dramatique, Op. 2, by Mr. Otto Manns, a clever work, but spun out, and one in which the storm and stress, and the strong influence of Beethoven, and more especially of Wagner, testified to the fact that the composer is pretty well at the outset of his artistic career. Madame Carreno performed Beethoven's Pianoforte Concerto in E flat, and her rendering of that work was remarkable for breadth, feeling, and finished technique. Lest, however, all praise should sound suspicious, we may add that in the Adagio the extreme delicacy of the playing interfered here and there with the dignity of the music, though not to any serious extent. Miss Esther Palliser and Mr. Andrew Black sang the duet and closing scene from Act III. of 'Die Walküre,' though with only moderate success. The second part of the concert was devoted to Tchaikowsky's B minor Symphony.

Herr Rosenthal gave his third pianoforte recital at St. James's Hall on Friday in last week. His rendering of Beethoven's Sonata in E flat, Op. 81a, came not from the heart to the heart, as the composer expressed it, but rather from the head to the head; in other words, it was chiefly an intellectual reading. The playing in the last movement was exceedingly brilliant. The pianist was heard to far greater advantage in Schumann's 'Carnaval.' This proved altogether a characteristic performance, one which interested and astonished. Some of the movements were rushed through at too rapid a pace, 'Reconnaissance' was cold, 'Paganini' exaggerated, and the final March uncomfortably fast and furious; yet, notwithstanding all peculiarities, it was the performance of a great artist. The pianist concluded his programme with two of Liszt's 'Rhapsodies Hongroises' welded into one by himself, and brought up to the Rosenthal standard of difficulty. This was a wonderful technical display; the artistic enjoyment of some listeners was, however, in inverse ratio to their astonishment.

A symphony in C minor (MS.), by Mr. William Henry Bell, entitled 'Walt Whitman,' was performed for the first time at the Crystal Palace last Saturday afternoon. The composer wrote his work under the influence of the American poet whose name the work bears. There is no foolish realism; the poet's thoughts, expressed in verse, merely suggested certain moods, out of which the music grew. This is the right course for a composer, and one which was adopted by more than one of Mr. Bell's great predecessors. The opening Allegro is full of life and energy; the thematic material is fresh, the developments are ingenious, and not dry, and the scoring is effective. The second movement (Humoreske), one of the

most important of the symphony, according to Mr. C. A. Barry, was unfortunately omitted, on the ground that a complete performance of the work would occupy fifty-five minutes. The reason is scarcely satisfactory; a weak Caprice for violin and orchestra by M. E. Guiraud, of which the solo part was, by the way, exceedingly well played by Mr. A. V. Belinski, leader of the Palace orchestra, might have been omitted from the programme, and thus have made room for it. The third movement is a funeral march, of interesting character, though somewhat forced. The finale is clever, brilliant, and displays considerable power of thematic development. The performance was excellent, and at the close the talented young composer received a double recall. Mr. Waddington Cooke played Grieg's romantic Pianoforte Concerto in A minor in a finished and refined style; his technique is excellent. Miss Lillian Blauvelt, the vocalist, was heard at her best in songs by Wagner, Delibes, and Verdi. The programme concluded with 'Die Meistersinger' Overture.

On the previous Saturday a symphonic poem, 'The Raven,' by Mr. Josef C. Holbrooke, proved disappointing. M. César Thomson, the Belgian violinist, played Brahms's Violin Concerto in an able manner, and also gave as solos an expressive Adagio by Goldmark, and a very difficult 'Passacaglia' of his own, in which, however, his intonation was not always faultless.

### Musical Gossip.

THE programme of the last of the four Symphony Concerts at Queen's Hall on Saturday afternoon included Beethoven's Pianoforte Concerto in E flat. The pianist was Herr Zwintscher, whose technique easily answered all demands; yet there was hardly sufficient contrast in his playing; moreover, a hard, unsympathetic instrument gave him no assistance. Welcome additions to the repertoire of these concerts were Mozart's Overture to 'Idomeneo,' and Weber's 'Ruler of the Spirits,' a revised version of an overture to the unfinished opera 'Rübezahl.' The orchestra under Mr. Wood's direction played admirably. The programme included Beethoven's Eighth Symphony. Mr. Frangon-Davies, the vocalist, threw strong dramatic feeling into his rendering of Loewe's ballad 'Edward.'

MR. AUGUST MANNS, the veteran conductor of the Crystal Palace Concerts, celebrated his seventy-fifth birthday last Monday, and the enthusiastic applause which greeted his appearance on the platform at the concert given that afternoon showed how the good work in which he has been engaged for nearly half a century is remembered and appreciated. No conductor has laboured here so long and so faithfully in the cause of high art. Mr. Manns has not only given magnificent performances of standard orchestral works, but has kept pace with the times, and brought to a hearing many foreign novelties of importance; further he has given strong and frequent encouragement to British musical art. Although advanced in years, Mr. Manns has not, like another Prospero, laid down his magic wand, but when he retires from public life he will carry with him the good wishes of many lovers of music who have enjoyed and profited by his interpretations of great masters, ancient and modern. The programme of Monday's concert included a recently discovered suite by Tchaikowsky, entitled 'La Belle au Bois Dormant.'



DRAMA

THE WEEK.

ADDELPHI.—'Bonnie Dundee,' a "Romantic Historical Play" in Five Acts. By Laurence Irving.

MR. LAURENCE IRVING'S new play on the subject of Graham of Claverhouse, in which at the Adelphi Mr. Robert Taber made his first experiment in London management, was less of an advance upon 'Peter the Great' than we were entitled to anticipate. Historical truth, to attain which an earnest effort has been made, has been overburdened with melodramatic incident of the crudest kind. The whole is accordingly like a juvenile study in the school of Alexandre Dumas. Very far are we from charging Mr. Irving with imitation, conscious or unconscious, though we are reminded at times of Scott and other masters. It is next to impossible in melodrama to escape resemblances such as present themselves, and in every case the scenes or situations that are recalled have been differentiated. It is unfortunate that while Mr. Irving's romantic incidents are quite the weakest part of his play, they are those which appeal most directly to the audience. Great pains have been taken to give the central figure historic truth as well as to win for him our sympathies, to preserve the atmosphere of the time, and to present faithfully the corruption of the Scottish nobles and the disruption of the court of James II. These have been wasted. The scene in which James witnesses his courtiers and his captains slinking from his presence to join his enemy is ingenious, elaborate, and ineffective. How far this is the fault of James himself, who palter and hesitates in a way that may be intended to show the weakness and infirmity of his character, we know not. Before he makes up his mind to depart, however, the public is as tired of him as ever could have been the country he abused and misgoverned. A scene in the Hall of Convention, Edinburgh, in which the Scotch lords give proof of their mercenariness, and are rebuked by Dundee, the Abdiel of the cause, is also ingenious, but is mismanaged, and not quite intelligible. On the other hand, a scene in which Dundee, rebuked by Alexander Peden, who, by a pardonable perversion of history, is shown as alive on the eve of the battle, if battle it may be called, of Killiecrankie, and is forgiven by his wife and by the child of John Brown, the "Christian carrier," with whose murder he was charged, proves touching and almost thrilling. Dundee's death is foretold to him by the irate Covenanter, not the least of whose gifts in popular estimation was that of prophecy, and the young son of Brown is told the particulars of his father's slaughter. Lady Jean, or Lady Dundee, solemnly devotes her husband to his duty, using the very words in which Mrs. Brown had sacrificed her husband to the cause of the Covenant, and the child, frightened at the stern minister, takes refuge with the cavalier who has throughout protected him, and in pardoning his deed proclaims to the patriot nobleman the pardon of Heaven. Had the whole been equal to this scene we should have hailed a fine play. The manner, however, in which James II. elaborately prepares a scene by which Dundee is certain to become embroiled with his wife is painfully artificial; and a second, in which

Lord Ochiltree, the arch enemy of the Viscount, is trapped and compelled to abet the escape of his foe, is, not to put too fine a point upon it, childish. It is possible that a better stage management might have rendered it conceivable. The convention by which Dundee, embarrassed by his bride, is allowed to escape out of a window while some of his bitterest enemies gape idly on and take no steps to seize him, is simply inconceivable. Mr. Taber's performance of Dundee, who is shown almost for the first time in fiction in his true colours, has both beauty and distinction. Miss Lena Ashwell plays in excellent style as Lady Dundee. Miss Ada Branson is Mary of Modena, not too easily recognizable under the appellation Marie Beatrix.

"BEGET" AND "BEGETTER" IN ELIZABETHAN ENGLISH.

PROF. DOWDEN misapprehends the gist of my argument, and ignores the bulk of the evidence which I adduce in support of it. I claim to have proved that Shakspeare and his contemporaries occasionally employed the word "beget" in its primary signification of "acquire" or "procure," and that it was not until the eighteenth century that the word's secondary signification of "engender" completely superseded its primary signification of "procure." Prof. Dowden denies that the references I give to Cotgrave's and Skinner's dictionaries support my conclusions. He leaves practically unchallenged the ample instances of the use of "beget" as a synonym of "procure" which I draw from the lexicons of Robertson and Sewel. I am ready to dismiss the witnesses to whom Prof. Dowden raises objection. I will call a new one in their stead. Elisha Coles, in his 'English-Latin Dictionary' (first edition, 1677), enters the word "beget" twice over, thus:—

"Beget, gigno."

"Beget (procure), concilio, pario."

It is admitted that two centuries before "beget" commonly signified "procure." Consequently the sole inference that Coles's entries justify is that in his day the word's early and original meaning was not altogether abandoned. The alternative theory that Coles, Robertson, and Sewel, three independent chroniclers of contemporary English speech at the close of the seventeenth century, by some magical coincidence of perversity, revived, in their capacities of recorders of the current language, a wholly obsolete use of the word "beget" needs only to be stated to be dismissed as futile and untenable.

It would not be courteous to suggest that Prof. Dowden accepts this fatuous doctrine, but in the bustle of controversy the contents of his armoury grow so miscellaneous that one hardly knows what it may not include. "Beget" rarely figured in any sense in sixteenth and seventeenth century literature. Prof. Dowden tells us that certain lexicographers of the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries only recognized that it meant "engender." But the omission from dictionaries of Shakspeare's era of a comparatively rare word, or a particular signification of that word, which is found, not only in contemporary literature, but in dictionaries or vocabularies of slightly earlier and slightly later dates, merely proves that the lexicography of Shakspeare's era was tentative and defective. At least two popular lexicographers of Shakspeare's era ignore the word "beget" altogether (e.g., Levins's 'Manipulus Vocabularium', 1570, and Bullokar's 'English Expositor', 1616). Hundreds of words that were employed by Shakspeare and his contemporary writers find no place in any of the dictionaries of the epoch which Prof. Dowden enumerates. Lexicographers of the later years of the seventeenth century, although by no means perfect, proved

MR. ALFRED SCHULZ CURTIUS has made arrangements with Mr. Maurice Grau, on behalf of the Grand Opera Syndicate, to give two complete cycles at Covent Garden of 'Der Ring des Nibelungen'; the first June 5th, 6th, 7th, and 9th, the second, June 25th, 26th, 27th, and 29th. The work will be presented in its entirety. Among the distinguished artists engaged are Mesdames Gulbranson, Schumann-Heink, and Ternina, and MM. Anton van Rooy, Imbart Latour, and Lieban. Herr Felix Mottl will be the conductor. The demand for tickets will probably be very great, so that early application is advisable.

MR. ROBERT NEWMAN announces his London Musical Festival between April 30th and May 5th inclusive. The six concerts will be with the combined bands of the Lamoureux and the Queen's Hall orchestras (200 instrumentalists); three will be under the direction of Mr. Henry J. Wood and three under that of M. Chevillard.

WE regret to learn that Herr Vogl, the celebrated tenor of the Royal Opera-house at Munich, is ill, and has gone, for the sake of his health, to Meran in Tyrol. He is over sixty years of age, and has, it is reported, the intention of withdrawing from public life.

LAST year Dr. Hans Richter was said to have concluded a new contract with the Opera at Vienna for five years. We now learn that he has written from Manchester to have that contract rescinded. The great conductor will, however, remain at the head of the Hofcapelle. *Le Ménestrel* considers that the withdrawal of Dr. Richter will prove an irreparable loss to the Vienna Opera.

CARL BECHSTEIN, the pianoforte maker and founder of the flourishing firm bearing his name, died at Berlin on March 6th, in his seventy-fourth year. He first worked in various German factories, but in 1856 set up business on his own account in Berlin.

FRIEDRICH COHEN, the antiquary of Bonn, has published a catalogue of the collection of autographs of Alexander Posonyi of Vienna. There are various Beethoven documents, 200l. being marked against the complete first movement of the Pianoforte Sonata in c minor, Op. 111, with many corrections. This is stated to be "apparently the first sketch," yet it is difficult to understand how a complete movement can be a sketch. Another interesting document is the Mozart c major Trio copied by Beethoven.

MM. GILHOFER & RANSCHBURG, of Vienna, will sell a Beethoven document on April 2nd, a recently discovered letter from the composer to the Archduke Rudolph. Their important catalogue includes autograph letters and music by Schubert, Mendelssohn, Brahms, and other great composers.

JOHANN PETER EMIL HARTMANN, the Danish composer and father-in-law of the late and still more celebrated Niels Gade, died last Saturday at Copenhagen at the advanced age of ninety-four. He came of a musical stock. His grandfather Johann, born in the first half of the eighteenth century, wrote operas, and was the author of the national air "Konge Christian stod ved høyen Mast," and his father was Cantor of the garrison church at Copenhagen. Johann Peter Emil composed several operas which were produced many years ago at Copenhagen. In 1840 he was appointed director of the Conservatorium of that city.

PERFORMANCES NEXT WEEK.

SUN.	Sunday Society Concert, 3.30; Sunday League, 7, Queen's Hall.
MON.	Monday Popular Concert, 8, St. James's Hall.
TUE.	The Bach Choir, 8, Queen's Hall.
WED.	Philharmonic Concert, 8, Queen's Hall.
THUR.	Westminster Orchestral Concert, 8, Westminster Town Hall.
FRI.	Carthus Club Concert, 8.30, The Princess's Galleries.
SAT.	Royal Choral Society, 8, Albert Hall.
SUN.	Messrs. Plunket Greene and L. Borwick's Vocal and Pianoforte Recital, 3, St. James's Hall.
SAT.	Miss Jacobina's Matinée, 2.30, Stafford House.
SUN.	Saturday Popular Concert, 8, St. James's Hall.
SUN.	Extra Symphony Concert, 3, Queen's Hall.
SUN.	Orchestral Concert, 3.30, Crystal Palace.

more exhaustive, and they competently attest that the word "beget" retained its original meaning of "acquire" and "procure" as late as their own generation.

Prof. Dowden will not allow that in any of the instances of the use of the word which I cite from Elizabethan authors "beget" bears a meaning other than that of "engender," or some figurative adaptation of that meaning. When, for example, Hamlet bids the players, "in the very torrent, tempest, and, as I may say, whirlwind of passion.....acquire and beget a temperance," Prof. Dowden assigns the word "beget" a very subtle force, which he derives circuitously from the concept of procreation. Those who do not interpret Shakespeare "tropically" will recognize that Hamlet in this sentence colloquially seeks emphasis by repetition, and that the distinction of meaning to be drawn between "acquire" and "beget" is no more than that to be drawn between the preceding "torrent" and "tempest." In other words, "beget" here bears its primary significance, and is a mild intensive of "get." This Dr. Murray has established in the 'New English Dictionary' beyond risk of any genuine confutation. Prof. Dowden derides the notion that the familiar passage in Dekker's 'Satiromastix' in which "beget" figures can be seriously quoted as an instance of the word's use in the sense of "procure." On this point I am fortunate enough to be able to summon Prof. Dowden himself, when in a less controversial mood, as a witness in my own behalf. "I hold," wrote Prof. Dowden in these columns last week with what proves a suicidal self-contradiction "that no Elizabethan example of the word ['beget'] in the sense [i.e., 'procure'] has yet been exhibited." In the introduction to his edition of the Sonnets—my copy bears the date 1896 on the title-page, although I know that the book was published earlier—Prof. Dowden quoted the exact words I cite from Dekker, and added to them, without any qualification, the just comment that here "beget evidently means procure" (p. xxxix). It seems wasted labour to produce more instances of this usage of "beget" in the hope of convincing a critic who can thus irresponsibly stultify himself by discarding with merely controversial intent the obviously correct interpretation of the word for one that is only noticeable for its unedifying complexity. In Lucentio's speech ('Taming of the Shrew,' I. i. 43-45)—

We could at once put us in readiness,  
And take a lodging fit to entertain  
Such friends as time in Padua shall beget—

Prof. Dowden will no doubt detect a figurative presentation of Time in the unseemly guise of a "procreator" of "friends" for Lucentio. Simpler-minded readers will perceive that Lucentio colloquially uses "beget" in its primary sense, and that it is in his mouth a synonym for "procure."

On one other point I ought perhaps to add a word. It is common knowledge that the new notes in the Variorum edition of 1821 were drawn from the accumulations of Malone which remained unpublished at his death. This is fully explained in the preliminary advertisement by the editor, James Boswell the younger, who throws the responsibility for practically the whole work on Malone's shoulders. For that reason I treat as a part of Boswell's inheritance from Malone the sensible note on "begetter" which bears Boswell's signature. Boswell claims no higher function than that of sifter of Malone's ample stores.

SIDNEY LEE.

8, Victoria Square, Clifton, Bristol.

I CANNOT think Prof. Dowden's reply to Mr. Sidney Lee conclusive.

It seems to me that what all writers on the subject need to bear in mind is that the "procreative" meaning of "beget" was not the primary meaning of the word, but a later applied

meaning. The primary meaning was to "bring about"—and with this all later meanings are practically identical. To beget a child is to "bring about" a child; to "beget an awful attention" is to "bring about" an awful attention; to "beget that golden time again" is to "bring about" once more the golden time. Why, then, is it necessary to subdivide the meaning into half a dozen others? In Mr. Lee's interpretation of the famous phrase, W. H. is addressed as the man who "brought about" the publication of the Sonnets; and it certainly seems to me that such explanation is perfectly legitimate.

ALFRED AINGER.

#### Dramatic Gossip.

'BOOTLES' BABY' was withdrawn from the Garrick and the theatre was closed. So soon as the piece was no longer to be seen, public interest in it seems to have revived. The theatre has accordingly reopened and the run has been renewed. So far as we know this state of things is unprecedented.

MR. BENSON'S tenure of the Lyceum will be prolonged until the return of Sir Henry Irving, which will not be until the beginning of June. In addition to the pieces announced, he will produce 'Coriolanus,' 'The Taming of the Shrew,' 'As You Like It,' and 'The Merry Wives of Windsor.'

MESSAGES of sympathy and condolence were wired to M. Claretie by Mr. Tree on behalf of the members of the Actors' Association on the destruction of the Théâtre Français, and elicited from the manager of that institution an expression of gratification.

THE Globe reopens this evening with 'Nurse!' a farcical comedy by Miss Clo Graves, in which Miss Lottie Venn, Mr. Sydney Brough, Mr. Alfred Maltby, Mr. Kinghorne, and Mr. Paul Berton will appear. 'A Broken Halo,' a one-act play of Mr. Charles Thursby, is also given.

BOTH the Comedy and the Vaudeville theatres are now closed.

It seems more than probable that Mr. Kennedy's 'Tess,' the production of which at the Coronet Theatre, Notting Hill, took place without the sanction of Mr. Hardy, will be transferred at Easter to the Comedy. Mrs. Lewis Waller will resume her part of the heroine.

MRS. PATRICK CAMPBELL purposes, it is stated, to remain permanently on the list of London managers. Should a larger house not be available, she will in the autumn renew, if possible, her tenure of the Royalty.

THE death on March 5th is announced of M. Henri François Xavier Pierre Crisafulli, a well-known and prolific French dramatist. Among his better-known pieces, written either alone or in collaboration, were 'L'Affaire Coverley' (founded on the Tichborne case), 'Le Petit Ludovic,' 'L'Idole,' 'La Falaise de Penmarch,' 'La Chouanne,' 'L'Hôtel Godelot,' 'Le Démon du Jeu,' 'Giroflé-Girofla,' and 'Le Passé de M. Jouanne.' He was born in Naples, June 29th, 1827.

THE 'Stage in the Year 1900' is the title of a volume to be issued before the end of the year by Messrs. Spottiswoode & Co. It will consist of a collection of over a hundred photogravure plates of the leading players and playwrights of the day, and will be issued in an *édition de luxe*, limited to three hundred copies. The letter-press, giving a succinct history of the stage during the Victorian era, will be supplied by Mr. Joseph Knight. The book will be under the direction of Mr. W. Eden Hooper, who is responsible for 'The Stock Exchange in 1900,' and will be assisted by Mr. Victor Hewett. It is on a scale of luxury hitherto unknown in works dealing with the stage.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.—P. M. N.—G. N.—E. W.—J. R.—received.

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